

The Nation

VOL. XLI.—NO. 1047.

THURSDAY, JULY 23, 1885.

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The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JULY 23, 1885.

The Week.

THE history of American politics does not record a more complete conquest of a party in a great commonwealth by one man than has been achieved by Mahone over the Republicans of Virginia. The most arrogant Northern boss never reached the point where he dared to name his candidate for chairman of a convention, thrust him upon the delegates without giving them a chance to say a word, and confer upon him the power of making up the committees, and thus absolutely controlling the action of the body. Indeed, the boss was quite justified in aping the manner of speech affected by the Emperors of "the effete despotisms of Europe," and introducing the agent whom he had selected to represent him in the presiding officer's chair as "our distinguished friend and brother." The whole course of the convention had been outlined by Mahone long before it met, and his dictation was followed to the very end, two-thirds of the delegates sustaining him in even the most unrepugnant of all his methods, the refusal to allow the various county committees throughout the State to select their own chairmen. The fight in Virginia this year is simply a fight for life on the part of the worst demagogue in the South. Remembering that the worst demagogue in the North once succeeded in securing an election to the Governorship from one of the most intelligent States in the Union, one cannot wonder that Mahone should have got such a hold on a State with so large a proportion of ignorant voters as Virginia. All friends of honest politics, however, will hope that his race has been run, and that he may this year be sent into retirement along with Ben Butler.

At the meeting of the National Cotton Exchange held at Greenbrier White Sulphur Springs, Va., a week ago, a resolution was reported by a special committee favoring a stoppage of the silver coinage. After discussion it was passed with only one dissenting vote. This action, coming so soon after the resolution adopted by the Atlanta Commercial Convention, betokens a wholesome change of views upon this paramount question of the day in the South, where hitherto the silver fanaticism has had its principal seat and its strongest hold. When the vote was taken in the House of Representatives last February upon Mr. Randall's amendment to the Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill, more than three-fourths of all the Southern members of both parties voted to continue the coinage. If they had divided with anything approaching to equality, the Randall measure would have passed. The vote stood 118 to 150, the majority being composed of 118 Democrats and 32 Republicans, and the minority of 54 Democrats and 64 Republicans. A change of 16 votes would have changed the result. It will be very strange if the commercial interests of the South, which appear to be now fully alive to the danger, do not stand for at least 16 votes in the new House.

It appears that the new Postmaster at Indianapolis, Jones by name, has discovered a way to circumvent the Civil-Service Law. It should be mentioned for his distinction, as well as that of his fellow-postmasters in offices having more than fifty employees, that he is the only one of President Cleveland's appointees who has made the discovery, or has shown any disposition or desire to depart from the spirit of the act. The law leaves the power of removal undisturbed in the hands of all officers who have any responsibility for the performance of public duties. It provides, however, that when anybody of a specified grade, such as a clerk in a post-office, is removed, or when a vacancy from any cause exists, it shall be filled after a competitive examination by selection from the four applicants who stand highest in the list. The Postmaster of Indianapolis has perceived that he can change the entire *personnel* of that office, and make it as completely subservient to the spoils system as though the Pendleton bill had never been passed, provided one Democrat out of every four applicants can be found to pass the examinations with sufficient credit to meet the requirements of the law and regulations. The necessary vacancies he can of course make without violating the letter of the law. This plan has been put in practice with exceeding vigor by Postmaster Jones, who avows to all persons who remonstrate against his proceedings his intention to "make a clean sweep," and who has already carried his intention into effect by discharging all the janitors and scrub-women and other employees not included in the provisions of the act, and filling their places with Democrats. It is stated that among the persons thus thrown out of service is a niece of the late General Burnside, whom misfortune had reduced to the necessity of working for \$8 per week in some manual employment in the Indianapolis Post-office building. The effrontery of this newly-fledged postmaster calls for the immediate attention of President Cleveland, whose integrity is quite as much at stake as that of the law which Mr. Jones has undertaken to nullify.

The last Congress authorized the appointment of five new copyists in the Bureau of Statistics, specifying \$900 as the yearly pay for each. The Missouri politician who was made chief of the bureau a few weeks ago conceived the brilliant idea that, if the copyists should be paid only \$720 a year, they could escape the necessity of competitive examination, as this system does not apply below the \$900 grade. He therefore asked whether he could not appoint arbitrarily five persons as copyists at \$720, and the First Comptroller, being deceived by his version of the act of Congress, replied that he could. The five "workers" whom he proposed thus to unload upon the public service were not installed, however, before the facts in the matter came to Secretary Manning's notice; and the First Comptroller, upon learning that the appropriation bill specified \$900 as the pay, decided that the copyists came within the classified ser-

vice and must be examined. Mr. Manning evidently meant what he said the other day when he declared, apropos of the Kellar case, "I intend that this department shall strictly observe the Civil-Service Law."

If the "Comments" department of the *North American Review* is open to such blackguardism as that which Mr. Rossiter Johnson expends upon Mr. Dorman B. Eaton in the August number, it ought to be closed forthwith. As Mr. Eaton is abundantly able to take care of himself, we shall leave him to deal with his assailant, if he finds anything worth replying to. We shall take notice merely of Mr. Johnson's repetition of an exploded calumny against Postmaster Pearson, which is given in these words:

"Even the boasted reappointment of Postmaster Pearson was thoroughly partisan; for Mr. Pearson, by keeping his 1,300 employees at work on a legal holiday, and thereby preventing them from voting, secured the elevation of Governor Cleveland to the Presidency." This was an accusation brought by a surcharged Blaine man (Mr. Clarkson, of Iowa), not against Mr. Pearson, but against Postmaster-General Hutton, who was accused of forbidding and preventing Mr. Pearson from giving his employees an opportunity to vote. Mr. Hutton replied by producing documents and official orders showing, first, that he (Hutton) was absent from Washington at the time, and gave no orders whatever; second, that Postmaster Pearson did give orders that every employee should be allowed the necessary time to vote and caused the same to be posted in every room in the office; and third, that every man who desired to vote did vote, no complaint of want of sufficient time and opportunity having been made by anybody. A writer who can repeat such an accusation after it has been proved false, has got the Blaine malady in a stage where treatment at the town-pump would be of no avail. The publication of such matter in the *North American Review* gives a new significance to the Latin motto which adorns its title page.

The view appears to be taken at the Treasury Department, and especially in Treasurer Jordan's office, that if the New York banks would be a trifle less niggardly with their gold, the situation as regards silver would be relieved of existing difficulties, and that the necessity of a loan of gold from the banks to the Government might be averted. This view is formulated in a Washington despatch, which says:

"Treasurer Jordan's position, as it was stated to the New York bankers in summary, is substantially this: That the New York bankers hold the key to the situation; that they can determine the kind of currency which the Government shall use in the payment of Clearing-house balances by the kind of currency which they give to the Government in payment of duties at the Custom-house. If the New York banks choose to hoard their gold, and to pay the customs dues in silver, the Government will be obliged to pay its Clearing-house balances in silver. If, on the other hand, the banks will consent to pay a fair proportion of customs dues in gold, the Government can meet its obligations in gold. Should, however, the banks continue to hoard gold and pay silver to the Government, the Government will be compelled to borrow gold, or to pay silver to the banks."

It would be interesting to know the process by

which the banks are to get their gold into the Custom-house in the payment of duties. The banks, in the first place, have no duties to pay. They only pay checks drawn upon them by importers and others who have money on deposit. The Custom-house does not accept checks in payment of duties. The law requires all such payments to be made in ready money of certain specified kinds, in which silver dollars and silver certificates are included. The theory held at Washington apparently is, that a bank is able not only to identify a check drawn for money to pay duties with, but to follow the drawer of the money to the Custom-house and see that he does not stop at a broker's office by the way, sell his gold for silver certificates, and pocket the difference before he pays his duties. This conception is too grotesque, we think, to have had its origin with Mr. Jordan, whose life has been passed behind a bank counter in Wall Street.

The Louisville *Courier-Journal* says that when the Adjutant-General was sent into Bell County (Ky.) by the Governor in May to see about the murders down there, he found "the people talked to him with marked timidity," and the Sheriff, out of a summoned posse of 150, could only get eight to respond. The judge holding court, too, was afraid to ask for troops lest he should be held responsible and murdered on their arrival. The Adjutant-General seems to have been amused with the way justice was dealt out to small offenders. They were promptly convicted and savage sentences passed on them, but these sentences were never carried out, "and the jail was empty." He estimates that one in fifty of the voting population of Bell County is charged with murder. So much for Bell County. In Rowan County the murdering is mainly done by two factions, the Martins and the Tollivers. One of the Tollivers was recently on trial for killing Ben Reyborn when trying to kill one of the Martins, and the County Attorney, being connected with one of the factions, left the case in the hands of the Attorney-General, Hardin. At the trial, however, the County Attorney appeared to denounce one of the witnesses of the prosecution, and to show his sympathy with the accused, and neither the Attorney-General nor the Court seems to have been able to silence him without killing him. The County Attorney was anxious to have it believed that a certain man had been engaged by the Martins to kill him for \$50. Murderers in Kentucky are, in fact, frequently retained for small sums. It seems at this distance as if the Attorney-General and the Judge ought to have killed Young, the County Attorney, in open court, and then the Martins present would have killed the prisoner, besides losing some of their own number.

An interesting feature of migration is the proposed removal of a body of 20,000 Hungarians *en masse* from the heart of Pennsylvania to the northwestern part of Canada. Count Esterházy is now in negotiation with the Dominion Government regarding this matter, and there is little doubt that his scheme will be carried through. His countrymen are now working in the coal and iron

mines, but they were farmers in their native land, and would like to till the soil on this side of the ocean. They propose to pay their own way from Pennsylvania to the nearest point on the Canadian Pacific Railroad, whence the road will transport them free of charge to the Qu'Appelle district, and here the Government will place a tract of 200,000 acres of fertile land at their disposal. This will be probably the largest movement of population in an organized body ever known in this country.

How the publication of filthy matter pays is shown in the case of the weekly edition of the *Sun*, which ordinarily reaches about 40,000 copies. During the three weeks ending July 11 it ranged from 40,742 to 41,692. By printing the obscenity of the *Pull Mall Gazette*, however, in the edition of July 18, it was run up to 163,732. The extra profit on the obscene edition would be, say, \$1,830 60, of course a mere trifle to the proprietors of so prosperous a paper as the *Sun*. This being so, we trust they sometimes ask themselves, in the silence of these summer evenings in the country, whether it was worth while for this beggarly sum to put 120,000 copies of this beastly stuff in the hands of the boys and young men of this great city, in which pulpit, press, and police find it such hard work not to extirpate immorality and uncleanness, but even only to abate them slightly.

The way in which the "reportorial commissioner" of the *Pull Mall Gazette* opens his narrative is well calculated to strengthen the suspicion that a desire to make a sensation was at the bottom of the enterprise. It is actually introduced by a column of cheap literary balderdash, beginning with an account of the Minotaur, the mythological devourer of maidens, embellished by quotations of Latin verse, and bringing down the history of Minotaur's appetite to modern times. The style and the thought are, in fact, just what might have been expected in an advertisement of a cheap anatomical show or a dime novel. No man whose soul was really impressed to the extent Mr. Stead would have us believe his is, by the evils the *Gazette* has been describing, could have sat down to write such wretched trash or have allowed it to appear in his paper when written. It is enough to turn any decent man's stomach. The cry is still kept up, that the story could not have been made to affect legislation—that is, to impress Cabinet Ministers—by mere submission to such a commission as is now sitting on it, without selling it by the ton; but it will not be kept up long.

The latest news of the *Pull Mall Gazette's* exposures is curious and suggestive. In the first place we are told that the expenses of the Committee of Inquiry, on which Cardinal Manning and the Archbishop of Canterbury are sitting, are to be paid by "a complete publication, in a single edition, of the full text of all the revelations," and this is "having an enormous sale." In other words, the expenses of a committee of divines and philanthropists conducting an inquiry in the interest of purity are to be paid by the sale at a low rate of one of the most obscene books ever is-

sued from the press. Was the like of this ever known either in the ancient or modern world? We believe that many of the people who are sanctioning or encouraging this amazing absurdity will live to repent bitterly their present folly. In the next place, we have been furnished with a specimen of the evidence which the *Gazette's* "reportorial commissioners" are presenting to the Committee of Investigation, in the shape of an offer to produce as many girls, for immoral purposes, as the members of the Committee might name, "to be delivered anywhere to their order." While they were deliberating on this proposal, the reporter went and produced a girl of the kind specified, "dressed in an old black frock," but, strange to say, none of the Committee would receive her. Both Cardinal Manning and Archbishop Benson declined her, which is good as far as it goes, but we should have been pleased to hear that they had also, laying aside for the moment their episcopal character, thrown the ink-bottle at the "reportorial commissioner's" head. As evidence, the incident reminds one of the man who offered to prove his story of having shot a woodchuck by showing the hole out of which the animal came. Of course ten thousand excellent poor women in London would send girls dressed in old black frocks to a commission of bishops and philanthropists for half a crown apiece without fear or trembling.

The old Tory Squire who writes to the *Tribune* from London expressed the opinion in a very solemn manner last December that the British Parliament was making "a great mistake" in increasing the number of the members of the House of Commons. With his usual reticence, however, he only said this in New York, when by saying it in London he might have saved the English people from what may be a disastrous blunder. He has now turned his attention to "President Cleveland's civil service reform." That he does not approve of it, we need hardly say, but what has "drawn his attention" to it more particularly is the removal of Mr. Shaw, the American Consul at Manchester. For this the Manchester people, or some of them, are said by the Squire to be very sorry, but he adds, with his 'cutest air, "I do not think President Cleveland's civil-service reform is clearly understood in Manchester. Possibly he does not understand it himself." There is no good reason why the Manchester people should understand it, but the Squire should, as long as he acts as a newspaper correspondent, try to understand it, as well as English and American politics generally. Mr. Shaw was removed for a reason which would have caused the prompt dismissal of any consul in the British service—his leaving his post during the late campaign and coming home to perorate against President Cleveland on the stump. In other words, he was removed for being an offensive itinerant partisan. To this deliverance the Squire tags on the announcement that he was not present at the dinner lately given to Edmund Yates, and he intimates obscurely that he does not approve of Yates. He seems, in fact, to be in a very haughty, implacable mood.

It has not been explained yet, though we hope it will be before long, of what use the American lawyers were in the Lauderdale peerage case. Although called in as witnesses to a fact (for foreign law is a fact to the House of Lords), they had no more knowledge about it than any English peer might himself have acquired by spending a few hours in a library, and they were equally divided when called on to testify. The only one, in truth, who threw much light on the matter was Mr. Clarence Seward, who had gone over the records and found no case in colonial history where marriage had not been preceded by the publication of banns. What is most curious and mysterious in the matter is, however, the willingness of the peers to consider the law of New York in 1772 foreign law at all. At that time New York was as much part of the British dominions as Ireland or Scotland. An appeal from the New York courts at that day would have gone to the Privy Council, which would have had judicial knowledge of what the marriage law of the colony was. How, under these circumstances, the Revolution can have had the retroactive effect of converting the colonial law into foreign law, has not yet been made comprehensible to the lay mind.

The result of a great experimental sham fight of the British fleet in Bantry Bay, with ironclads, torpedo boats, and a boom, is that it seems to show that torpedo boats cannot do much, if anything, against a good boom well defended, but that, on the other hand, a well-handled ironclad ram will go through any boom that is at all likely to be constructed. The manoeuvres were made for the purpose of ascertaining, if possible, what kind of thing the naval battle of the future will be, but cannot be said to have thrown a great deal of light on it. The only thing that appears certain is that disabled and beaten ships will no longer figure much in sea fights as they did in the old days of the sailing fleets. The modern ironclad will apparently go to the bottom promptly when put *hors de combat*, and so will the torpedo boat. There will be nothing moderate or medium about the naval wars of the future.

The Radicals in Paris have issued an electioneering manifesto, in preparation for the elections, which has not received the attention it deserves. It is to be imposed, if possible, on all the candidates on the general ticket of the Department of the Seine. To begin at the beginning, every child is to receive gratuitous education at every stage from the State, at the hands of lay teachers, and while receiving it is to be boarded, lodged, and clothed at the public expense. In this way every couple can have as many children as they please without reference to the amount of their income. All indirect taxes are also to be abolished, and there is to be substituted for them a "progressive tax," both on capital and income—that is to say, it is to be very high on much capital and very low on a little capital; very high on large incomes, and very low on small ones. Besides this, there is to be a heavy succession duty on property transmitted by parents to their children, the only succession which is to be per-

mitted. Whether any capital would stay in France under these conditions is not a matter about which the Radicals concern themselves; in fact they would be rather pleased to have capital emigrate, inasmuch as they ascribe to it most of the evils by which French society is afflicted. This done, the State is to take possession in one way or another of all railroads, canals, and mines, and work them for the public benefit. The maximum of the hours of labor is to be reduced, and no children under fourteen are to be allowed in factories or workshops. "Credit" is to be provided for people who can give no security as well as for those who can. "Groups" of workmen are to have a preference in all contracts awarded by the State. The State prisons are to be "reformed," though in what manner is not mentioned, and people who cannot labor are to be supported at the public expense. To crown all, illegitimate and legitimate children are to be put on a complete equality before the law, or, rather, there are to be no illegitimate children hereafter. Nearly all good Radicals are opposed to legal marriage, and therefore cannot be expected to recognize two classes of children.

This last point is one, however, which has occupied French political speculators and legislators a good deal. The amount of writing which French jurists have done on what they call "la recherche de la paternité," that is, on the propriety of allowing women to point out the fathers of their children not born in wedlock, is enormous. The weight of opinion, both among lawyers and politicians, has, however, always been against it, and the enormous evils which might flow from it have been painted in the most eloquent language. The Radicals propose to get rid of all this trouble by cutting the Gordian knot. That is, they propose to create a state of things in which it will make no difference whose child any child is—all will be the children of the State, which will thus become a great foundling hospital. There is, it must be confessed, in the succession laws of all civilized countries a distinction in favor of legitimate children which it is difficult to defend on grounds of natural justice. The exclusion of illegitimate children from all share in the inheritance of their father in case of intestacy when there are legitimate children to take it, is a provision which is, whenever it exists, intended to fortify the institution of marriage; but the Radicals maintain, and not without some show of reason, that we have no right to fortify any institution at the expense of the innocent. If anybody should suffer for the failure of parents to get married, it is undoubtedly the parents themselves, if they can be got at; for the consequences of illicit unions nobody is less responsible morally than the children born of them. In France the question is made more serious than elsewhere by the great pains taken by the law to strengthen the family bond, in all dealings with property, and by the serious limitations put on the testamentary powers of parents. The legitimate children have in France, in fact, rights in the property of their parents such as the law gives them in no other country, and under these circumstances it is not surprising that the sympathy of French radical reformers for the illegitimate should be stronger than else-

where. This sympathy is in their case of course increased by their hostility to marriage, which, strong as regards civil marriage before the Mayor, is ruthless and furious as regards church marriage. There is probably no country in the world but France in which a political candidate would be driven from the stump by a storm of execrations, on his admitting, in answer to a question, that he had had one of his children baptized, and in spite of his expressions of penitence; and yet this occurred in Paris not long ago.

There has been a rumor running through the European press for a week or two back, that the Pope was going to come to terms with the Italian kingdom—that is, was going to abandon his sham "captivity" in the Vatican, and accept the allowance set aside for him by the Italian Government of \$625,000 per annum. But this has been emphatically denied on very high authority. The story had its origin in the discipline which Leo XIII. has been compelled to administer to Cardinal Pitra and some others, for trying to be more papal than the Pope himself, and inveighing savagely against the conciliatory policy. The *Journal de Rome*, published at Paris, in which the Cardinal's letter appeared, has been suppressed by the ecclesiastical authorities in consequence of the Pope's reproof. In fact, the Pope's policy, which is evidently now to be carried out with a stern hand, is to be an almost complete reversal of that known as "Ultramontane" since Pius IX.'s day, or is, in other words, to be one of conciliation toward the Church's enemies everywhere; but there is as yet no sign of peace with the Italian kingdom, or the acceptance of its subsidy. Nevertheless, in the opinion of many observers, the steady and rapid decline in the amount of Peter's Pence must bring this about at no distant day.

The reform recently effected in the Hungarian House of Lords has been completed by the appointment, on the part of the Crown, of thirty new members, five more per annum remaining to be similarly appointed in the next four years. The selection of the thirty has been made by the Tisza Cabinet entirely in the spirit in which they organized the reform. Industry and finance, science and art, are strongly represented. Among the most noted of the new magnates are the Governor of the Austro-Hungarian Bank, and several other bank directors; ex-Premier Coloman Ghiczy; the Academicians, Paul Hunfalvy and Gyulai; the architect Ybl, and the oculist Hirschler. The last named is one of two representatives of the Jewish element of the population of the kingdom, whose denominational representation in the person of a rabbi-magnate Tisza vainly endeavored to effect by a special paragraph in the Reform Bill. It is also noticed that a considerable number of men with German names are now to occupy seats side by side with Esterházy, Batthyány, Pálffy, and other hereditary bearers of old historical names, while not a single Slovak, Serb, or Ruman has been added to the august body. Among the magnates created by Francis Joseph is General Máriássy, who gallantly defended a fortress against him in the revolutionary war of 1848-9.

SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[WEDNESDAY, July 15, to TUESDAY, July 21, 1885, inclusive.]

DOMESTIC.

THE President has made the following special civil-service rule: "Appointments to the 150 places in the Pension Office provided to be filled by the act of March 3, 1885, except so far as they may be filled by promotions or transfers, must be separately apportioned by the appointing power in as near conformity to the second section of the act of January 16, 1883, as the need of filling them promptly and the residence and qualifications of the applicants will permit." The section referred to provides that appointments shall be apportioned among the States and Territories and the District of Columbia upon the basis of population as ascertained at the last preceding census.

Francis H. Underwood, of Boston, has been appointed to succeed Bret Harte as United States Consul at Glasgow. He is a well-known writer, and has published biographies of Whittier, Longfellow, and other New England authors.

William B. Webb has been given a place on the District of Columbia Commission by President Cleveland. Mr. Webb is a Republican. He is about sixty years of age, a native of Washington, was graduated from Columbian University in 1844, admitted to the bar in 1847, and has practised ever since, except during the three years following 1861, when he was Superintendent of the Metropolitan Police.

Maurice F. Holahan has been appointed to the position of Chief of Division in the Custom-house. He is a secretary in the Tammany Hall organization and the Tammany leader in the Twelfth Assembly District of this city. For three years he represented that district in the Legislature. He was recommended for the position by Tammany Hall and Governor Hill.

A Washington despatch to the *Sun* on Saturday said: "It is the uniform impression of distinguished Democrats who have lately visited the White House that the President gives no indications of changing, but, if anything, is more resolute than ever in keeping his Administration as distinct as possible from party politics. The President leaves on the minds of all visitors the belief that he regards his steadfast adherence to this line as the most valuable feature of his Administration and the best exemplification of his theory of politics. In this way he thinks he will build up a Democratic party that will be worthy of the support of the country, and thus, though for a time his course may be criticised by Democrats, it will ultimately be concurred in as the best possible."

Secretary Lamar on Saturday sent a despatch to Inspector Armstrong, at the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Agency, in the Indian Territory, ordering that "the cattle trail leading from Fort Supply in a northerly direction to and into the neutral strip known as the Camp Supply trail must be opened for the passage of cattle forcibly stopped, and for other purposes of interstate commerce."

General Sheridan, who has arrived at the scene of the Indian troubles along the Kansas border, has talked with a number of Indians, including Stone Calf, one of the leading dissatisfied chiefs. They are divided on the question of a lease to cattlemen. The Indians appear to realize that if the Government undertakes to disarm them, they must submit, and it is believed that all danger of an outbreak is practically ended.

As a result of "pow-wows" with the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, it is said that General Sheridan will recommend the forming of a military force of 100 young Indians. This, he thinks, will divert them from mischief. He will also recommend the abolishment of grass-leases. A round-up or counting of the Indians took place on Tuesday. The Arapahoes numbered 1,500 instead of 2,500, and the Cheyennes only about 3,000.

The Northern Cheyennes, in Montana, were on Sunday reported as showing signs of discontent, and an outbreak was feared.

General Howard thinks there is a possibility of serious trouble with the Mormons. By his order the troops that were to leave Fort Douglas and Fort Laramie for Kansas to act against the Cheyennes have been retained at those posts. A collision between Mormons and Gentiles is possible on July 24th, the anniversary of the settlement of Utah. They come in by thousands on that day to Salt Lake City, from all parts of the Territory, to unite in the celebration. Should they attempt to repeat any such performance as they carried out on the Fourth of July, there may be bloodshed.

The Virginia Republican State Convention assembled in Richmond on Wednesday. The rival factions were led by Senators Mahone and Riddleberger. Governor Cameron's influence was anti-Mahone. During the evening a test vote revealed the fact that Mahone's strength was 494½ and Riddleberger's 235½. There were indications of a serious fight at one time, but this disorder was quelled by the two Senators. A platform was adopted containing the following planks: "We declare our resolute opposition to the present Federal Administration, as the fit creature of the immoral and faithless relations of apostate Republicans with the national Democracy, and as the natural product of folly, fraud, force, and perfidy." The platform proclaims "for a free ballot against a Bourbon ballot killer; for free schools and increased appropriations; for the enlargement and extension of the system of opposition to the Bourbon hostility to free education; for the enforcement of the Readjusters' settlement of the State debt; for economical government against Bourbon waste, improvidence, and crippled finances; for free labor and its just share in its contributions to the power and wealth of the nation; for every possible encouragement and aid to promote the construction of railroads and other facilities to open up the immense mineral and other resources of the State; for the enforcement of the paramount obligation of the various works of internal improvement to the people of the State; for money wages for labor, against the Bourbon store and order system, whereby corporate and other employers control the expenditures of their employees, and under which great extortion and oppression are imposed; for eight hours as a day's labor for all labor employed on public works and in mines and manufactories and corporations, with weekly payments."

At Thursday's session of the Convention, John S. Wise, Mahone's man, received more than 450 votes for Governor, and was nominated unanimously before the conclusion of the roll-call. H. Clinton Wood, of Scott County, for Lieutenant-Governor, and Captain Frank S. Blair, of Wythe, for Attorney-General, were nominated by acclamation, after which the Convention adjourned. There was a melodramatic reconciliation of the two Senators before the adjournment, and it is believed that Riddleberger will heartily enter into the canvass.

The Niagara Falls reservation was on Wednesday formally opened free to the public with elaborate exercises. Speeches were made by Governor Hill, Erastus Brooks, Mr. Dorsheimer, and James C. Carter. Letters were read from President Cleveland and Lord Landsdowne, Governor-General of Canada. The Niagara Park Commissioners have appointed ex-Assemblyman T. V. Welch Superintendent of the State Reservation at a salary of \$1,800. The Commissioners have authorized him to retain the old employees on Goat Island and in Prospect Park, and to make the best terms possible for the rest of the season with tenants of the buildings situated on the reservation, which will be demolished. Goat Island and Prospect Park will be closed at dark, the Commissioners having no means of lighting them. The inclined railway will be run by the new Superintendent, and a fee of ten cents will be charged. Nobody is compelled to use this

road, as there are stairs to the bottom of the cliff. The man who collects a fee of one dollar for taking visitors under the falls will be allowed to continue his calling and to demand a nominal fee for his service.

John Roach, the noted builder of iron vessels under contracts with the United States Government and private companies, made an assignment late on Saturday afternoon. It names as assignees George W. Quintard and George E. Weed, and gives preferences to the amount of \$122,217 98. The wages and salaries of employees of the assignor are first directed to be paid. It is asserted that Mr. Roach can pay \$2 for every dollar he owes. He lays his embarrassment to the neglect of Congress to provide suitable subsidies for American steamships.

The Poles and Bohemians on strike in Cleveland, Ohio, after listening on Wednesday afternoon to incendiary speeches, marched to the number of 2,000 to the rolling-mill, and broke down the gate giving access to the premises, with the intention of driving off the operatives. A body of police were inside the gate, and a desperate encounter ensued. Two strikers were killed, and others so battered that they will die. One policeman received fatal injuries and others were badly hurt.

The President of the Cleveland rolling mill on Thursday posted a notice that the entire works would be closed until the employees returned to work peaceably. The strikers are very threatening and are said to be buying arms and drilling.

Prof. Charles Kendall Adams has formally accepted the Presidency of Cornell.

Bowdoin College defeated Brown University in the mile and a half race on Lake Quinsigamond on Thursday by four lengths.

General Grant grew suddenly worse on Tuesday afternoon. It was thought during the evening that he was dying. He rallied a little, but it is feared that he will die very soon.

Edward M. Madden, a prominent Republican politician and business man of Middletown, N. Y., died on Friday, aged sixty-eight. He was a member of State and national conventions, Chairman of the Saratoga Convention which nominated Judge Folger for Governor in 1882, and a member of the State Senate four terms.

The Rev. Dr. S. Irenæus Prime died at Manchester, Vt., on Saturday, after an illness of six days. He was born at Ballston, N. Y., on November 4, 1812, the son of a Presbyterian minister. Early in life he showed his literary tastes. At the age of seventeen he was graduated at Williams College, and then studied at Princeton Theological Seminary. In 1833 he was licensed to preach, and filled pulpits at Ballston Spa and Matteawan on the Hudson. His health failing, it became evident that he could not endure the strain of pastoral work, and he decided to turn his attention to religious journalism. In 1840 he became connected with the *New York Observer*, of which he was made assistant editor five years later. In 1858 he purchased the interest of Sidney E. Morse in that journal, and acquired the senior editorship, which he has ever since filled, with an interval of but two years. Among his books are 'Travels in Europe and the East,' 'Letters from Switzerland,' 'The Alhambra and the Kremlin,' 'The Old White Meeting-House,' 'Life in New York,' 'Animals of the English Bible,' 'Thoughts on the Death of Little Children,' and 'The Power of Prayer' (a sketch of the Fulton Street prayer-meeting), which it is said reached a circulation of 175,000 copies. Dr. Prime held many positions of trust and honor, and was of a genial and sympathetic nature.

FOREIGN.

Excitement was caused in London on Wednesday by a despatch to the *Times* which said it was rumored that the Russians had advanced in force to Zulfikar Pass, and that they were

treating Persian territory as though it were Russian. The despatch also said that the British Frontier Commission was moving nearer to Herat. Reinforcements were arriving at Askabad. The advance of the Russians has made the Afghans anxious, but they are determined resolutely to resist any attempt to seize their territory. It is believed by the Afghans that General Alikhanoff, the commander of the Russian advance, is determined to force on a war, and that he is deceiving the Czar in regard to his real intentions. This alarming news resulted in a fall of Russian securities and English consols in the London market. It closed panicky on Wednesday. In the House of Commons Lord Randolph Churchill admitted that the Government had heard of the movement. Speaking of the hasty retirement of the members of the British Afghan Frontier Commission in the direction of Herat, Lord Randolph said that the people of Herat, fearing that the Russians contemplated a descent on Herat, had invited Colonels Yate and Peacock to enter the city, and the request had been complied with.

A large number of Russian reinforcements have arrived at Merv and Puli-Khisti during the past fortnight. The London *Daily Telegraph* on Thursday morning had a double-leaded editorial in which it said: "The situation, without having reached a distinctly acute stage in the negotiations between England and Russia concerning the settlement of the Afghan question, has become decidedly serious. Lord Salisbury's Cabinet took up the negotiations with the intention of bringing to a direct conclusion the settlement begun by Earl Granville. It was then discovered that new claims on the part of Russia were incompatible with the terms, as they had been officially defined, of the understanding between M. de Giers and Earl Granville. Communications have passed on the subject between the English and Russian Governments, but the replies of the latter have been, we regret to learn, of an unyielding character."

It was announced in the House of Commons on Thursday that the Government had nothing to impart in regard to the Russian advance. There was a panic on the Paris Bourse on Thursday, and a heavy fall occurred in the prices of most securities, owing to the reports that a crisis between Russia and England was imminent. In Vienna it was reported that Russia calculated on a French alliance against England. On Friday the excitement somewhat subsided.

It was semi-officially denied in St. Petersburg on Sunday that Zulfikar Pass had been occupied by Russian troops. General Komaroff made slight movements of troops there to prevent a surprise by an Afghan attack. He has been ordered to hold the positions, to enable him to occupy the defiles if necessary. The Government is firmly determined to do nothing that may compromise the pending negotiations with England.

A London despatch to a Vienna newspaper on Monday said: "M. Lessar states openly that the possession of Herat has become necessary for Russia and ought not to cause war."

On Tuesday the London stock market was stronger and the Afghan alarm had subsided. Russia has made fresh proposals.

The Amir of Afghanistan, having been invested with the Order of the Star of India, has proclaimed that in virtue of that investiture he is entitled to the aid of the Indian army if necessary.

Mr. Robert Bourke, Under Foreign Secretary, stated in the House of Commons on Friday afternoon that the Government would do its best to obtain an early issue of the Egyptian loan of \$45,000,000. Negotiations with the interested Powers were being carried on with that end in view now, Mr. Bourke said, and the Government were unable to make any further statement at present. On Tuesday, Russia's consent to the loan having been given, the issue was ordered through the Rothschilds.

In the House of Commons on Friday Mr. Parnell moved that the Government order a special inquiry into the Maamtrasna murder cases. In a long speech he dwelt on the maladministration of criminal law in Ireland under Earl Spencer, whereby innocent persons had in some cases been condemned and executed, or sentenced to long imprisonment. He analyzed the cases of Michael Casey and Miles Joyce, showing how the Crown acted contrary to the evidence. Sir Michael Hicks Beach said that the present Government had nothing to say concerning the merits of the case, and nothing to say in defence of the late Government. He was, however, authorized by the Earl of Carnarvon, present Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, to state that the present Irish Executive will make a careful personal inquiry into the subject submitted by Mr. Parnell for investigation, but must add that the Government felt themselves compelled to ask the House to resist Mr. Parnell's motion, which was derogatory to Earl Spencer, a member of the late Government. Lord Randolph Churchill praised Parnell's calmness and the argument with which he introduced his motion. He added that if there had been a miscarriage of justice it would be brought to light. He therefore appealed to Mr. Parnell whether it was wise or fair to press the motion. Mr. Parnell agreed that the request was a reasonable one, and asked leave to withdraw the motion. It was negatived without a division.

The Conservative course toward the Parnellites is severely criticised in their own party. They simply followed at Parnell's heels. Their own organ, the *Standard*, censured them, and the *Times*, *Telegraph*, and *News* denounce them. The Irish Conservatives are certain to be greatly alarmed.

The Munster Bank, with headquarters in Cork and twenty-nine branches in the Irish provinces, suspended on July 14, with liabilities estimated at £3,349,000. Its capital was £1,500,000, of which £975,000 was not paid up. There is a large body of shareholders among the middle classes who will be ruined by the call for the remaining unpaid capital. The shareholders have been for some time in litigation with ex-directors, including Mr. Wm. Shaw, M. P., for advancing money to fellow-directors without ample security and allowing them to overdraw their accounts. It is said that Mr. Shaw is indebted to the bank \$400,000, much of it unsecured. The bank will probably be reorganized. The failure paralyzed business in Cork on Wednesday, and a feeling of despair prevailed. Trade throughout the south of Ireland was checked. Great crowds assembled in the streets adjoining the bank, and serious disorders were feared. The assets are estimated at £3,350,000.

The excitement resulted in a run on the Hibernian Bank of Dublin, which has forty-two branches in Ireland. On Friday the bank officials, as a precautionary measure to prevent the bank's assets from being thrown on the market and sold at ruinous figures, insisted that the depositors should give them a week's notice of their intention to withdraw their money before they would be permitted to close their accounts with the bank. The bank is legally entitled to this demand of its officers, and it is hoped that by the expiration of the time the scare will have at least partly subsided.

The Government, through the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, refused on Monday direct aid to the Munster Bank.

In the House of Lords on Friday evening Lord Ashbourne presented the Irish Land Purchase Bill. The bill provides for the advance of three-fourths of the purchase money at 4 per cent. interest for forty-nine years. Where needed, the whole money will be advanced on conditions which, while just and generous, will not expose the Government to risk of loss. It is therefore proposed in such cases to retain a deposit of one-fifth of the purchase money, at a moderate interest, until the tenant has repaid by instalments an equal sum; also to utilize

the Irish Church surplus to guarantee the State from ultimate loss, but only after the forfeiture of the one fifth retained. The act is to be administered by the existing Land Commission, which will be reinforced by two Commissioners for three years at a salary of £2,000 a year. Earl Spencer approved the measure. Lord Ashbourne said the Government proposed to limit the amount of money to be advanced to £5,000,000. The church surplus is estimated at £750,000. The bill passed its first reading. The Parnellites appear to be satisfied with it.

The text of the bill to improve the housing of the poor of London prepared by the Marquis of Salisbury has been given to the public. The measure provides that, in the construction of workingmen's lodging houses in London and its urban and rural sanitary districts, a compulsory condition shall be that on leasing unfurnished houses a guarantee be given that the dwellings shall be placed in a reasonably fit condition for human habitation.

The bill removing the electoral disqualification from voters accepting gratuitous medical relief passed its second reading in the House of Commons on Thursday by a vote of 279 to 20.

The budget was read a second time in the House of Commons on Thursday evening. Sir Hugh Childers, the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, said that he was confident that beer, wine, and spirits ought to be subjected to higher taxes. He expressed his belief that they could be made to produce fully £6,000,000 per year.

Twenty-five thousand cotton operatives at Oldham, Eng., have struck work.

The Monetary Conference was opened in Paris on Monday.

The French Senate on Thursday ratified the Tientsin treaty.

The Council of the Seine has voted to remove Voltaire's heart from the National Library to the Pantheon in Paris.

Anselme Fleury, a French statesman, and member of the Corps Législatif in 1852 and after, is dead at the age of sixty-five.

The King of Dahomey, Western Africa, with a large army, has massacred many of the French in the protected villages. The King has also captured 1,000 French women and children, and he and his followers propose to eat them.

The garrison at Kassala recently repulsed an attack of the Sudan rebels, killing and wounding 3,000 of them.

News has been received in Berlin of the safety of Juncker and Casati, who have been exploring the Congo River, and about whom no intelligence had for many months been received, and who were supposed to be dead.

A Republican conspiracy was unearthed in Spain on Wednesday. A camp of insurgents was formed near Mataro, and soon a large number of recruits, well armed, joined the rebels. The Government got news of the existence of this camp, and sent a large force of troops to capture it. The troops made a sudden descent on the insurgents, and the latter fled in every direction. The troops captured most of them. Instructions were sent to all the cities and towns in Spain to look out for revolutionary plotters. The police of Saragossa raided a house in that city which they had reason to suspect was being used for a treasonable object. The officers surprised sixty conspirators and captured eighty rifles. Colonel Magallon, who is supposed to be the leader, has been tried and sentenced to death.

In the Canadian House of Commons on Thursday night, Sir John Macdonald gave notice of a proposal to vote \$20,000 to General Middleton in recognition of his services in the Northwest campaign.

The Canadian Parliament was prorogued on Monday afternoon, the Governor-General making a speech.

THE ROACH FAILURE.

MR. JOHN ROACH, in an interview published in the *Tribune*, ascribes his failure to the neglect of Congress to vote suitable subsidies for American steamships. The Democratic party is blamed for the depressed condition of the shipbuilding trade, and "the mendacious free-trade press" are rather hastily charged with indifference to the fate of the workmen in his yard, now thrown out of employment. In addition to these contributing causes Mr. Roach ascribes his disaster in part to his own excessive patriotism, exhibited in costly endeavors to float the American flag on the high seas and to build up an immense foreign trade carried on in American bottoms, built of American iron with American labor, and navigated by American seamen. The action of the Secretary of the Navy and of the Attorney-General in respect of the *Dolphin* is mentioned as an untoward event, but rather incidentally, as though the failure might have happened without that contingency. Mr. Roach repudiates utterly an interview published in the *Herald* of Sunday, in which his misfortunes are charged to the *Dolphin* misadventure, and says that the conversation published and attributed to him was fabricated from beginning to end.

We shall never be able to agree with Mr. Roach as to the proper method of building an American mercantile marine or of promoting foreign trade. We regard all attempts to carry on shipbuilding, or any other trade, with the proceeds of general taxation, as false in principle, delusive in practice, enervating in example, and especially scandalous in method, since it implies the use of lobby influence and corruption at the seat of government. Nevertheless, we regret that Mr. Roach has been compelled to make an assignment. We should greatly prefer that his shipyard were running with a double force of men, at even higher wages than he was paying. Whether his laborers were all native Americans or partly American and partly foreign, and whether all his materials were produced here or partly produced abroad, would not concern us as much perhaps as it concerns him; but if we could have our way, we would set his furnaces in full blast and his rollers and hammers in swift motion at once. This, we think, is the feeling of the entire free-trade press, mendacious or otherwise.

Things being as they are, the free-trade press will be apt to make reflections something like these: Mr. Roach's failure is not due to any change in the tariff, because there has been none. It is not due to any change in the navigation laws, because there has been none. If Mr. Roach has spent money in Washington fighting against the free-traders and in favor of subsidies, he must see now that it might better have been kept in his business and laid up against a rainy day. If he has taken too active an interest in politics and has staked too much on the continued success of the Republican party, as one might infer from his *Tribune* interview, he has violated a business principle of prime importance, and furnished an awful warning to his fellow-shipbuilders. The Messrs. Cramp, the Harlan & Hollingsworth Company, and the Bath Shipbuilding Com-

pany will undoubtedly take heed to conduct their business on a plan which shall take account of the principle of universal suffrage as one of the underlying facts of trade, and not venture everything on the belief that one party will remain in power forever. But what, after all, has the Democratic party done to harm Mr. Roach? It refused him a subsidy, but the Republican party had done so repeatedly before. For seven years past the subsidy pot has been boiling at Washington at great expenditure for fuel and without net proceeds, and any candid historian will say that the Democrats have furnished a liberal contingent to the support of subsidies.

But it was not anything that the Democratic party had actually done, Mr. Roach says, that caused the mischief. It was the public apprehension of what they might do. It was the shadow and not the substance of evil that closed Mr. Roach's yard. "The Democratic party," he says, "is supposed to be in favor of free ships, and when the election excitement began, and people saw the possibility of Democratic success and of the passage of a law that would mean the annihilation of American shipbuilding, there was no business. Carrying companies would not build ships because they did not know how soon the foreign ships, operated by foreign cheap labor, would be admitted to drive their business away." Probably Mr. Roach's assignees will find a more concrete reason for the assignment than a vague apprehension that foreign-built ships would be admitted to American registry in order to do what they are now and always have been doing—that is, carrying American goods to foreign ports and bringing the proceeds back. Nobody having any influence has proposed to open our coasting trade to foreign ships. As to all other trade, the advent of the Democratic party to power can make no difference as regards the carrying of goods, but merely as regards the carrying of the flag, and it is well known that importers and exporters pay their money exclusively for the transportation of property, and never a cent for the colors displayed at the mainmast.

Mr. Roach is clearly laboring under the impression that his shipyard is an institution, and peculiarly an American institution. It represents American labor, the American flag, and American interests generally, as distinguished from foreign affairs. Its embarrassments are American embarrassments, and the naughty Democrats who have caused its failure by filling merchants with the idea that cheap foreign ships would soon be sailing under the American flag are responsible for the pulling down of this noble institution. The inquiry will naturally arise why the other iron-ship yards in the country are not pulled down also. Mr. Roach's yard is not the only one of its kind on the Atlantic Coast, although Mr. Roach's political activity and his frequent presence at Washington city have led many people to think that he is the only man in the United States able to build an iron steamship. The bids for the new cruisers embrace the names of seven other firms and corporations offering to do the work for which Mr. Roach put in the lowest bids. If Mr. Roach's failure is due to the election of Cleve-

land, why were not the seven other shipyards prostrated in like manner?

This question seems to be answered in a second interview—an interview with Mr. Weed, the assignee of the failed firm—also published in the *Tribune*. According to this report, Mr. Weed says:

"With a capital of about \$2,500,000, he was doing a business of about \$5,000,000, half of which was involved in his contracts with the United States. Confronted with the Attorney-General's opinion that those contracts were so much waste paper, he did not know where he stood. He was paying out tens of thousands of dollars weekly in wages upon work which, it was threatened, would not be accepted. He would then be liable for about \$1,500,000, part of which had been paid in cash, and part in various portions of the machinery, spars, masts, and other parts of the vessels which had been provided by the Government. For this he would have had four worthless hulks, which, condemned by his own nation, could scarcely be sold to advantage to any other. It was time for a prudent business man to call a halt and find out where he stood. 'If that opinion of Garland's had not been rendered,' said one of his chief advisers yesterday, '2,400 American workmen would not have been turned into the streets last Saturday night, but would now be at work providing the finest iron cruisers known to modern naval science.'"

This is a shifting of the ground, and an attempt to lay on the shoulders of the Administration the responsibility of Mr. Roach's failure, which Mr. Roach himself said was due to the public apprehension lest the Democratic party should let in cheap foreign ships, and expose American owners to a ruinous competition. This apprehension, stirred up originally by the mendacious free-traders, was so intensified by the election that "there was no business." He was left with no work on hand except the three cruisers.

Of course the political bearing of the failure will be turned to all possible account, both in its general aspect as a reproach to the Democratic party, and as a special accusation against the persons whom ex-Secretary Chandler describes as "newly-fledged Cabinet ministers." The majority of the American people voted wrong, and Secretary Whitney and Attorney-General Garland decided wrong, the result being the destruction of an American institution and the turning adrift of 2,400 American workmen. It is desirable that the real facts should be made known, not because Mr. Roach's embarrassment is more important than that of hundreds of other firms which we have witnessed in the prevailing business depression, but because this is the only one that has had a distinctively political character assigned to it. The facts cannot be known until Mr. Roach's schedule of assets and liabilities shall have been filed. It may then be ascertained how much money he claims to be due him from the Government, and what proportion this sum bears to his aggregate liabilities. Among his assets has been mentioned the plant of the Combination Steel and Iron Co., an outfit for the rolling of steel rails, which was set up at Chester at the culminating point of the steel-rail "boom" a few years ago. The making of railway bars is an honorable branch of industry, but is not a necessary part of the ship-building trade. The depression which has come over it has probably affected Mr. Roach as it has affected other firms and corporations. If capital has been lost in it or made temporarily unavailable, such loss must not be laid to the

charge of Secretary Whitney. Nor can the discharge of any workmen so employed be made the basis of an accusation against the Democratic party. The same may be said of Mr. Roach's investments in real estate in Westchester County, of which the *Tribune* furnishes a list, amounting to \$198,000. These are, of course, private matters, which would not be suitable for newspaper comment if Mr. Roach's failure were not publicly charged upon a political party and upon the national Administration. It will be found, we apprehend, when all the facts are known, that the failure is due mainly to the neglect of business principles, and to the mixing of politics with business in undue proportions.

THE NEGRO IN SOUTHERN POLITICS.

A BRIEF Washington despatch a day or two ago, which was doubtless overlooked by the majority of readers, was full of significance to any careful observer of Southern politics. The despatch stated that L. C. Moore, a negro from Issaquena County, Miss., had been appointed messenger in the Interior Department, and that the appointment was made upon the recommendation of Senator Walthall, Mr. Lamar's successor in Congress.

The significance of this incident is, that it shows the leaven of liberal ideas to be working even in a State where Bourbonism has always been so strong as in Mississippi. The same spirit has been exhibited in other Southern States since the Democrats came into power. Almost the first appointment made in South Carolina was that of a negro to a desirable position as postal clerk in the railway mail service, as successor to an incompetent person of his own race, upon the recommendation of Senator Butler and with the hearty endorsement of the chief Democratic newspaper. Just now the Democratic politicians of Tennessee are greatly excited over the candidacy of a negro named Shaw for the important Federal office of Surveyor of Customs at Memphis, his appointment being strongly urged in preference to that of his white Democratic rivals by Senator Harris, the *Nashville American*, and other leading men and papers. Such occurrences as these presage great changes in the division of voters at the South. Broadly speaking, the blacks in that part of the country have been Republicans, and the whites Democrats. The blacks were Republicans because they had been taught by their carpet-bag leaders that the whites wanted to reenslave them; the whites were solidified in the Democratic party by this union of the blacks. Thus, the race line came to be drawn, with all its attendant evils to both races, of which the weaker necessarily suffered the larger share.

It was believed by candid students of the Southern problem that the only way to efface this race line was to elect a liberal-minded Democrat as President, convince the negroes that their fears were groundless, and thus pave the way for a division of their votes on rational grounds, with its necessary and not less desirable sequel of dividing the white votes. It is already clear that this is to be the result of Cleveland's election. The apprehensions of the blacks have been "entirely allayed," to use the language of that representative colored Re-

publican, ex-Congressman Lynch, of Mississippi, temporary President of the last Republican National Convention. Further interesting testimony from Mr. Lynch's State is furnished in a very striking open letter from H. C. Carter, a prominent colored man of Vicksburg, published in the *Commercial-Herald* of that city, and addressed "to the colored people of Mississippi." Some parts of this letter deserve to be quoted in full, as these:

"The time seems to have come when some one should point out to the colored people the fact that under Democratic rule their lives, liberty, and property are as safe as they were under a Republican President. Our guides, philosophers, and friends of the Republican faith insisted that no rights of a colored man would be regarded in case the national Government should change hands, and that even our personal liberty would be endangered. Under this party lash for years we marched to the polls voting steadily as we were bid to do, often for men whom we despised; often for men of whose moral corruption we had personal knowledge, and against men whose integrity and intelligence were beyond question, and whose kindness, advice, and judgment we implicitly relied on in all private matters. Let us hope that this lesson, at least, has been thoroughly learned by the colored man—party hacks can and will lie if it be apparently to their advantage to do so. Vote for men and not for creeds; choose the honest, capable, and sound-ideaed man, trusting that he will bring to bear on public questions those same qualities he displayed in the management of his own affairs, and you will not be deceived. Granting that we owed the Republican party a debt of gratitude, we have paid it, paid it by keeping its minions in power twenty years. We have paid it by aiding in the retention of a scheme of Federal taxation that has robbed the agricultural South to enrich the manufacturing East. We have thus robbed ourselves to enrich Northern Republicans, to whom our fate, except to subserve their interests, is a matter of utter and profound indifference."

Mr. Carter proposes a change. "Let us stand up and act for ourselves," he says. He points out that the real advancement of his race depends upon the improvement and perpetuation of the public-school system, and urges that its perfection can be more surely obtained if they join hands with their white Democratic friends. "Let us try the experiment of aiding them, at least for the present," he concludes. "If in the long run it appears that justice is withheld from us, we can then take the track of our inclinations or interests. If my views startle any of you or my words grate harshly on your ears, remember the wisest of political philosophers in America has said: 'Wherever there is freedom of thought there is bound to be difference of opinion.'"

In the same line was the letter recently addressed to the editor of the *Norfolk (Va.) Landmark* by a leading colored clergyman of that city, named Pollard, who says:

"I am not a politician, and in no sense a leader of the colored people, but I do believe that the colored people are beginning to realize that their interest is your interest, and that your interest is their interest. All the people in the South should have one common end and object in view—viz., good government and a development of our natural resources. We have been enemies long enough. It is time now that we should be friends."

There are Democratic politicians at the South who do not want to see the race line disappear. A Memphis paper, which bitterly opposes the appointment of Shaw, insists that, if the color line is broken, "the country will be worse off than it was before." But the ruling sentiment of the South is plainly with the progressive wing of the party, which advocates friendly relations between the races and is already willing to begin sharing the offices with the

old slaves. In Mississippi we observe that almost without exception the whites in the counties with large negro majorities are deciding in favor of "fusion" county tickets for the coming election. This removes all danger of the choice of men of "moral corruption," who, as Mr. Carter says, have been too often supported by the blacks when they ran a straight ticket, while, as a Democratic correspondent of the *Commercial-Herald* points out, wherever this policy is adopted "we hear of no Matthews affairs or Yazoo killings, but profound peace and good will prevailing."

There are Bourbon Republican politicians at the North who will join the Bourbon Democrats of the South in mourning over these signs of progress. The great thing for which the Republican party has always fought was equal rights; but now that the Southern whites manifest a disposition to grant them, there are Republicans narrow-minded enough to sneer at any movement looking in that direction. But the great mass of patriotic men at the North will rather endorse the just view of the matter taken in the last issue of the *Nashville World*, a Republican journal, which says:

"The announced policy of the Cleveland Administration to appoint a negro to one of the principal Federal offices in this State is a portentous one, and if carried into execution, which we do not doubt, is destined to exercise an influence for good on the destinies of the Southern section of the nation, which will affect alike beneficially both the negro and the white man, not one more than the other. . . . The negro has prayed for just such a condition of things as is promised by this new departure of the Democratic party, and once assured of its sincerity and permanence, he will not be slow to break the color line by hastening in considerable numbers to unite his political destiny with that of the Democratic party. . . . The Republican party has for twenty years fought to protect the citizenship with which the negro was clothed, and would, if necessary, continue so to fight; but when the Democratic party in Tennessee accepts the situation, and by its public action guarantees that this right of American citizenship shall be sacred even when worn by a negro and ex-slave, then the Republican party would be untrue to itself and recreant to the motives which have hitherto actuated it in this matter if it sought by improper means to interfere with the independent action of the negro voters. It would also be untrue to its patriotic record and impulses if it refused to accord deserved praise to the Democratic politicians and press who may manifest and exhibit the courage to lead in this great and patriotic movement in the direction of the welfare and prosperity of so large a section of the American Union. The Republican party can better afford, under the circumstances, to lose half or all the negro vote than to place itself on record as justifying past Democratic charges, that it counsels and controls the negro against his true interest only for the selfish aggrandizement of its white leaders."

THE RADICAL PROGRAMME REGARDING IRELAND.

ONE of the plans which a good many sanguine Englishmen had counted on for preventing the Parnellites from holding the balance of power in the House of Commons, was an agreement between the English and Scotchmen of the two great parties that the Irish vote was not to count in any question threatening a change of Ministry; that is, neither side was to consider a majority obtained by the aid of the Irish for a resolution of censure or want of confidence, as sufficient warrant for the resignation of the Cabinet or for a dissolution. No such agreement or understanding was ever reached, but there was a widespread belief that whenever the occasion came it would be reached and acted on. But the

first time the expected crisis came the Tories showed not the slightest objection to stepping into power on the Parnellite votes, although these votes are now probably only one-third of what they will be in the new Parliament.

This is most mortifying and alarming to a great many moderate Liberals represented by the London *Spectator*, although it is not nearly so mortifying and alarming as the almost open revelation which the recent debates make, that not only have the Tories accepted office at Parnell's hands, but they have actually entered into an alliance with him, and have promised an investigation of the Maamtrasna murder trials, which is in itself a reflection on Lord Spencer, who said there was nothing to investigate. In view of these facts, the *Spectator* solemnly calls on all right-minded Englishmen to make up their minds now how far concession to Ireland is to go. *Truth*, which probably contains more Radical doctrine than any other newspaper in the country, sneeringly advises the *Spectator's* friends not to draw the line very close, in making up their minds, but to leave an ample margin, for the concessions will probably go further than most people now dream of. In fact, there is hardly a doubt that they will go as far as Mr. Chamberlain has gone in his late article in the *Fortnightly* on "Local Government and Ireland"—that is, to the length of setting up a national council in Dublin to legislate on purely Irish affairs.

Mr. Chamberlain's article is pronounced by the editor, in his Monthly Summary, "an exhaustive and authentic exposition of the views of the leaders of advanced Liberalism, on what will infallibly prove the paramount question of the new Parliament." "That its solution," he adds, "will be found in the direction indicated in our pages, that it will be accepted by the country, and that Mr. Gladstone will superintend the conduct of the scheme through Parliament, is scarcely doubtful." If this be true, the article is an exceedingly important political programme, and, indeed, as such it has already excited a great deal of curiosity. Mr. Chamberlain's position is, that as the first great work of the Reformed Parliament in 1832 was the establishment of local government in towns, and the first great work of the still more reformed Parliament of 1868 was the extension of the sphere of local government in the matter of education, so the first work of the Parliament elected by the new constituencies in 1885 will be "the crowning of the edifice of local government in some parts of the United Kingdom, and the foundation as well as the completion of its structure in others." The machinery he proposes to create would be County Boards to take charge of the affairs of counties, and "National Councils" to take charge of such affairs of each of the three great divisions of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales as are not imperial in their character.

What he says about Ireland is, however, the most important part of the programme, and amounts, in fact, almost to a complete justification of the Parnellites in their hostility to the House of Commons considered as the Government of Ireland. He dismisses with very few words the suggestion, with which many good Americans justify themselves in treating Irish grievances as unworthy of attention, that so good a man as Mr. Gladstone, or so good a party as the

Liberal party, may be trusted to manage Irish affairs properly without this tremendous Irish clamor. "The task is for them," says Mr. Chamberlain, "a hopeless one." "The Castle," as the English branch of the Irish Government is called, is utterly isolated from the Irish people. "There is no channel of trustworthy communication between the people and the Government." The grand juries, which manage county affairs, are composed each of twenty-three gentlemen, summoned by the sheriff as a matter of social consideration, who meet for one day, or at most two, each half-year, vote the taxes and adjourn; and they are all landlords. The county Inspector of Police knows as little of the opinions and feelings of the people as they do, being a sort of semi-military "swell," and probably not on speaking terms with any man of lower social grade than that of a county magistrate, and "would be shocked by the suggestion that he is the servant, and not the master, of these people." The same arguments apply to the magistrates, both paid and unpaid. They are all appointees of the Crown, and "the vast majority are opposed to the people, differing from them in interests, in religion, and in politics."

And yet it is through such channels as this that the Lord Lieutenant and the collection of administrative bureaus known as "the Castle," which manages the affairs of the whole island, learn what popular opinion or feeling in Ireland is. Lord Spencer was, of course, no better off in this matter than any of his predecessors, and yet his opinion had actually more weight with the late Gladstone Cabinet, when the question of continuing the Coercion Bill was under consideration, than any other organs of opinion—the Irish press, or clergy, or members of Parliament; he being an Englishman who had never lived in the country at all till he became Lord Lieutenant, and had passed his whole time in it surrounded by cavalry escorts. As Mr. Chamberlain truly remarks:

"A system which places the entire administration of a country in the hands of a central Government, and which divorces an entire people from sympathy with or influence upon that Government, must result in misunderstanding on one side, followed by misrepresentation and unmeasured vilification on the other. The rulers at the Castle, blindly striving to do their best for the country which they do not, and which, under the circumstances, they cannot be expected to understand, complain not unjustly that the Irish people are unreasonable; the Irish people retort that the rulers at the Castle are tyrannical and corrupt. Under such a condition of things an intelligent and an economical administration of the country is impossible. Reforms most urgently needed are not even attempted, abuses the most glaring pass unchallenged. The public money now spent in Ireland, if intelligently and honestly applied, would probably abundantly suffice for her public wants. But it is in a great measure misapplied, and it will continue to be misapplied until the system of government shall have been so amended as to place in the hands of a national body, elected by and responsible to the Irish people, the application and distribution of the funds now contributed by the imperial exchequer to Ireland."

Some of the examples he gives of this are very striking and worth recurring to.

THE PURPOSE OF THEOSOPHY.

AMONG contemporary grown-up attempts to find the spot on which the end of the great rainbow rests, the palm for originality may fairly be claimed by Mr. A. P. Sinnett for his introduction to this incredulous Western world of the Mahatmas of Thibet. About four years ago, it

will be remembered, Mr. Sinnett first drew attention to this extraordinary brotherhood by his book called 'The Occult World.' This contained only a candidly written account of his own adventures in search of the rainbow, and the phenomena on which he rested his claim to have found it. The philosophy of the discovery was given by him in a later book called 'Esoteric Buddhism,' and what may be called the romance of it later, in a novel of occult life called 'Karma.' The first two of these books have already passed through several editions, and the interest they have excited has been sufficiently great to lead to the founding of a Theosophical Society, with a flourishing Lodge in London and many branches in different parts of India, and to induce several apparently serious and sane people to leave their occupations, their families, and their future in England, to devote themselves in India, under the guidance of an Adept-Guru, to the life of a Chela or Neophyte on the long, hard road leading to the mountain fastnesses, both physical and intellectual, in which the mysterious Mahatmas dwell.

The difficulty, however, with this interesting doctrine has been from the first its preternatural vagueness. The most extraordinary phenomena have been put forward upon entirely insufficient evidence, and the most fascinating theories of life and immortality have been offered on the *ipse dixit* of a being whose existence can only be in flat contradiction to all the accepted opinions of modern science. But through the whole system has run a thread of empirical method, which has served, in spite of every improbability, to secure for it the appearance of a causal relationship to common life. Under these circumstances, the title of the little volume just written by Mrs. Sinnett, 'The Purpose of Theosophy,' will be extremely attractive alike to the faithful and the scoffer. The chapters into which it is divided are Elementary Truths, An Outline of Occult History, Western Misconceptions of Eastern Philosophy, The Seen and the Unseen, The Mahatmas, and Advice to Students. But, although the intention of Mrs. Sinnett's book is admirable, it will lead few readers beyond the ploughed field on this side of the hill. "The tendency of intellectual thought and scientific inquiry," says the authoress, "has for many years past been toward materialism and agnosticism. There still remains, however, in human nature the desire for belief in a future life, and these pages aim at pointing out how the study of Theosophy or the esoteric doctrine shows the reason of this instinctive longing, and what it will necessarily and surely lead to in the future races of mankind." The only definition of Theosophy, however, which she gives us is, that it is not a religion with a creed or code of doctrines, and that "it teaches people to search for the fundamental truth that is the basis equally of every creed, philosophy, and science, to discover and put aside the superstructure raised by the superstition, persecution, love of power, ignorance of science, and bigotry of humanity, and thus to lay bare the fact that one truth supports every religion, no matter how divergent they may now appear; that truth being the Divine wisdom of the ancients, discoverable alike in the symbolical writings of the Kabbala, the books of Hermes, the Vedas, and other sacred books of the East, in the Talmud, the Koran, our own Bible, as well as in the teachings of Pythagoras, Socrates, and many of the more recent philosophers."

Beyond this modest claim for the new science, however, the authoress gives very few particulars about it, believing apparently with Emerson that details are melancholy. She asks, What does this Divine wisdom really consist of, whence comes it, by whom has it been taught, and for what purpose? And it is precisely to these ques-

tions that clear and accurate answers are essential before any one ought to consent to accompany her gifted husband on his search. To the disappointment, however, of the reader who takes up the 'Purpose of Theosophy' in the hope of discovering the method of calling down fogs upon his enemies, like the Ram Lal of Mr. Marion Crawford's romance, or of being able to receive from his master in Thibet the answer to a letter which he posted a quarter of an hour before in Piccadilly, there is nothing in the little volume that will disclose these secrets to him. It apparently, indeed, tells a good deal about the Mahatmas, the Arhats, the Rishis, of the fundamental difference between Hatha yog and Raya yog, of the significance of Karma, and the nature of the Elementals, of the peculiar composition and qualities of the Astral Light, of the purposes of the Guru Devas, and even of the unspeakable advantage it is to the Teshu Lama of Thibet, the head of the occult hierarchy, to be able to reincarnate in the body of a young baby when his own tenement becomes too frail for further occupation. But the would-be Chela will be compelled to admit that his relation to all this superlatively desirable information is that of the Irishman to the little creature which he could never quite catch, because, as he said, "the moment you have your finger on it, it is gone."

Still, as we have said, there is an undercurrent of empiricism in the teachings of this "inner brotherhood" which they will do well to emphasize in future works. "The doctrine of Karma," says the authoress, "is well calculated to guide and assist those who realize its truth to a higher and better mode of life, for it must not be forgotten that not only our actions, but our thoughts also, are most assuredly followed by a crowd of circumstances that will influence for good or for evil our own future, and, what is still more important, the future of many of our fellow-creatures." And the "Rules for Students" are a simple vegetarian diet; a firm conviction of the transient character of this mortal existence; mental abstinence, that is, subjugation of all envy, hatred, malice, revenge, and the purification of the mind from all worldly anxieties; bodily abstinence; freedom from bigotry; perennial cheerfulness; ardent longing for spiritual freedom, and liberation from conditioned existence. Many of these rules might be followed with advantage by other persons than would be Chelas; but the rule which prescribes for the neophyte a full and perfect belief in his own power of receiving spiritual knowledge and of the ability of his Adept-Guru to teach him this science, will probably be of importance chiefly to the person whose faith still leads him to seek for the rainbow behind the hill and for the moon in his bucket.

THE NEW BRITISH MINISTRY.

LONDON, July 4.

THE appointments consequent on the change of Government have now been completed, and the Tory Ministry may be examined as a whole. Attempts have been made to oppose the reflection of several of its members by their respective constituencies, but these attempts have failed in every case hitherto, partly because the constituencies were previously Tory in their complexion, partly because there is a general and not unnatural feeling that it is unfair to prevent a man from resuming his seat in Parliament just when his ambition has been gratified by the receipt of an appointment. Besides, electors have a sort of pride in being represented by a person honored by the Crown with an office, and fancy that if they want anything done for their locality (not that a Government can do much for localities under our system) they have a better chance of getting it put through.

The appointments made have been received with less interest and aroused less criticism than might have been expected. One reason for this is that the centre of interest has for the moment been transferred from Parliament and the Executive to the constituencies, where the battle of the general election is already beginning. Another is to be found in the belief that Lord Salisbury's Ministry is a temporary one. It is contemptuously called a "Cabinet of Caretakers" by the Liberals, who are universally confident of a triumph at the general election. Even should Lord Salisbury remain in office after that crisis is passed, it is probable that he would recast his Ministry, with a view to its permanent efficiency. But his supporters are not themselves sanguine of success. He puts a bold face upon the matter, and refers with satisfaction to an election held the other day at Wakefield in Yorkshire, where a seat previously held by a Liberal has been won by a Tory candidate. But the most careful calculations show an overwhelming probability of a Liberal majority, and of a Liberal majority large enough to outvote not only the Tories but the Tories and Irish Nationalists combined. Thus the country does not greatly care who are the men placed in office for the five months that have to run before the results of the election are ascertained. It is amused at the elevation of Lord Randolph Churchill, and not wholly unsympathetic, for, in spite of his violence and apparent want of political principle, it likes to see a hard fighter rewarded. It is incurious about the other ministers, for they are either "old stagers," whose good and bad points are pretty well known, or men with little that is distinctive and striking about them.

Of these new men the most notable are Mr. Stanhope, who becomes Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education—that is to say, Education Minister; Mr. Balfour, who is President of the Local Government Board; Messrs. Webster and Gorst, who have been named Attorney and Solicitor-General respectively. Mr. Stanhope is a brisk and pointed speaker, and a gentleman personally well liked, although apt to be bitter in debate. Without any commanding powers, he does creditably whatever he has to do, and would probably have obtained a wider reputation had his health, which is reputed to be not very strong, permitted him to do more of that stump work which is now becoming so large a part of the duties of English politicians. Mr. Balfour, although not more known to the general public, is a man of a finer and higher quality of intellect. He has written a remarkable book—"A Defence of Philosophic Doubt"—which proves him possessed of no small metaphysical ability, and he always shows in the House of Commons an unusual subtlety and ingenuity in argument. Naturally fitted to take a broad and philosophic grasp of questions and rise above the pettinesses of party strife, he has latterly been led (partly, perhaps, by the influence of his uncle Lord Salisbury, or in unconscious imitation of that statesman's manner) to display his powers chiefly in keen criticism of the language and conduct of the Liberal leaders; and it is not to be denied that this is a surer road to political success than the exercise of those rarer gifts of mind which he possesses. He is not the kind of man most likely to become a popular leader, but, if he chooses to apply himself energetically to public affairs, he can hardly fail, adding social advantages to his eminent capacity, to obtain and keep a place in the front rank.

The Attorney-General, Mr. R. E. Webster, has not hitherto sat in Parliament, so that it is a great tribute to his professional reputation that he should be appointed to the post of chief law adviser of the Ministry, and chief defender of their measures from the legal side. He has en-

joyed for the last fifteen years a very large practice both as a junior and a Queen's counsel, and is credited with sufficient capacity as a speaker to insure his success in Parliament. Mr. Gorst, the Solicitor-General, is in an exactly opposite position. With comparatively little forensic practice, he has made his way in Parliament by his activity and acuteness in debate. Some displeasure is expressed among the bar at the promotion of one whose fame has been won in a different sphere, but, in spite of his comparatively small experience in handling causes, he is a well-read and sound lawyer, better furnished both with knowledge and with judgment than many Queen's counsel whose professional income has far exceeded his own. Those who know him best are confident that he will supply most valuable aid to the Government in the conduct of their legal business; while his services to the party, both as an organizer outside and in attacks on the Liberal Ministry within the House of Commons, could not have been passed over.

"Cabinet-making" is a proverbially difficult and unsatisfactory process in all free countries, and here in England, where so many different considerations have to be regarded, it is more difficult than elsewhere. The Prime Minister must, in choosing his colleagues, look not only to talent for debate in Parliament (a point that the President of the United States may ignore), but to administrative capacity, to social and family connections, to influence with certain sections of opinion, to personal honor, and a record as little stained as possible; finally, to services rendered to the party on the stump. The chief moral of recent appointments to office, both among Liberals and Tories, is that this last consideration is becoming increasingly important. It is not real capacity, either for administration or parliamentary debate, that Lord Salisbury seems so much to have prized in the minor appointments he has made—and though these minor appointments are trivial in themselves, they lead to higher posts ultimately—as activity and vehemence in party warfare. Mr. Ashmead Bartlett, Baron de Worms, Mr. Marriott, are none of them men who have obtained the ear of the House of Commons, or shown any of the higher aptitudes for politics. But they have all assailed the late Government with unceasing invective, particularly at public meetings, and have thus made their names familiar if not important. Mr. Chaplin, member for Lincolnshire, is one of the dullest as well as the most pompous orators of the House, but he never lets a debate pass without delivering an elaborate philippic against Mr. Gladstone. All four have been rewarded with places, while men of incomparably higher ability and reputation, such as Sir Matthew Ridley, have been left unprovided for, because they have not thrust themselves forward as restless sharpshooters. This is one of several signs of evil omen for the political life of England.

Similar is the lesson enforced by the victory of Lord Randolph Churchill, who has not only gained one of our greatest offices—the Secretaryship of State for India—for himself, but procured the dethronement from the leadership of Sir Stafford Northcote, and secured good posts for his two followers, Sir H. D. Wolff and Mr. Gorst. Lord Randolph's success has been won by qualities of combat, or rather of onslaught, by vigor, audacity, recklessness. Of the requisites for serious statesmanship he has not yet given any sign, though it is possible that office may develop them. On some other occasion I shall endeavor to sketch to your readers his character and position; for the moment it is enough to observe that his power is due not to his Parliamentary following, which is insignificant, but to his popularity with Tory clubs and associations through-

out the country. That violent intemperance of language which repels moderate men is welcome to such clubs, and as they are powerful in the populous districts which Toryism is trying to win from the Liberals who had previously counted on working-class support, their favorite has to be reckoned with by the old-fashioned aristocratic set who used to rule the Tory party. Much as Liberalism has changed its color, Toryism has altered even more. It is no longer the party of caution and resistance, the party which stands by existing institutions and rests on the sentiment of respect for the rich and noble. It may not have yet found a new programme, but it has at least broken with its old traditions; nor has any one done so much as Lord R. Churchill to complete this greatest of Mr. Disraeli's achievements.

Y.

Correspondence.

SOUTHERN FEDERAL APPOINTMENTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Knowing how earnestly the *Nation* has labored in the cause of civil-service reform in general, I feel that I am not out of order in addressing you a few words on the subject of civil-service reform in the South. I wish to say, first, that I voted for Cleveland, and that in my humble judgment he satisfies one's idea of the thoroughly honest politician. I believe we are all satisfied that he means to do the right thing; but here in the South, far away from the people with whom he is familiar, the imperfections in the civil-service law render it hard for him to do the right thing. It is not his fault, for I cheerfully recognize the difficulties under which he labors; but it does look as if "we of the South" were not to have the full benefits of the laws such as the North enjoys. The South has not yet learned the principles of civil-service reform as expounded in the national primer. In the local government of Memphis the policy of keeping acceptable and competent men in office has long been recognized. Our various official appointees are seldom or never dismissed without cause, while one-third of our police force is made up of colored men, who are appointed by Democratic commissioners regardless of politics. This is business. This is right.

Now when there was a change of Administration, of course a large number of Democrats began a lively scramble for the Federal offices here. The District Attorney was suspended without a shadow of offensive partisanship falling across his name. The United States Marshal was also beheaded, but he had mingled extensively, though honorably, in politics. The postmaster here had a model office. He was formerly connected with the large cotton house of Brooks, Neely & Co., had business qualifications merely, and though I have attended every Republican Convention held in Memphis since the passage of the civil-service law, I never saw Postmaster Smith there in any other light than as a mere looker-on. He has now in his possession a document, signed by all the leading men in Memphis, endorsing his official performance—a testimonial unsolicited, and which is therefore stronger than a mere petition. Now I admit that good men have been appointed to these offices, and that the suspension of the Republican officials did not violate the letter of the civil-service law; though I maintain that in two cases it tampered with its spirit. For revenue collector of this district the President has appointed a Mr. Hillsman, one of the old-time political machinists, recommended, I believe, by Senator Harris, an outspoken adherent of the spoils system. The Democratic party is not under any obligations to Mr. Hillsman, for that

gentleman has been living off the party for the last few years. He is an "offensive partisan" of the very worst stripe.

The officials in Louisville, Ky., have been ousted in much the same way as in Memphis. If this, however, were all, I would not write this letter to the *Nation*; but in the *Courier-Journal* of a few days ago I saw the statement that one of the recently-appointed officials had concluded not to make a clean sweep of his subordinates, as there were several good Democrats among them. The Louisville and the Memphis officials declare, without reservation, their intention of ejecting all the Republican deputies and mail-carriers, and substituting Democrats. My object in writing this letter is twofold. I first desire to show that, in making Southern appointments, the Administration should be more critical than in making Northern appointments, and that a sharper eye will have to be kept on the officials in the South to see that the law is enforced. My second object is to call attention to the fact that the civil-service law does not go far enough; that, unless it is strengthened and enlarged so as to embrace all purely business offices, it will be a dead letter in the South. Mr. Eaton's articles on the subject, as well as the admirable articles in the *Nation*, prove that the cause has not gone awry in the North and East, and I hope the South will soon be able to say the same thing. I hope to see the *Nation* urge the civil-service movement on, and take even a higher stand than it has taken in the past. The constant reiteration of the demand for the calm and equable businesslike performance of official duty will as surely tell in the long run. Public opinion is advancing to meet the position of Mr. Curtis and—I say it without the intention to flatter—of the *Nation*. As a Southern man who never expects nor desires to hold a public office, I do not want to see the South deprived of the blessings of civil-service reform.

WALKER KENNEDY.

MEMPHIS, TENN.

COUNTRY POSTMASTERS AND THE ADMINISTRATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Will you kindly allow me a short space in which to "take the case of the country postmaster," as suggested in your editorial of last week's issue? Your attitude in support of the present Administration, as a true servant of the country, calls for my hearty sympathy. No unbiassed observer can doubt that Mr. Cleveland and his Cabinet are endeavoring to conduct the affairs of the nation in a just and businesslike manner. However, I think that we have a right to expect that this policy shall be maintained in subordinate offices. Moreover, I believe that "Blessed are they that expect much." The demand often brings what is demanded. To this end, I desire to call attention to the fact that the Administration is giving up its principle in these country offices. For instance, the late postmaster in this place (a Republican) is a man of honor and integrity, than whom none in the community is more generally respected. He was not an "offensive partisan." He never "worked," never canvassed a single vote, but simply rode to the polls and deposited his own ballot. He has even carried the present postmaster in his buggy to vote the opposition ticket. The office was kept in a grocery store, the most convenient and respectable place in town. The business of the office was faithfully performed, to the perfect satisfaction of the whole community, irrespective of party; indeed, there is on file in Washington a petition, signed by nearly every resident who has much postal business, asking that there should be no change.

The man has been replaced by an active po-

litical worker of the Democratic party. While there is nothing against his personal character, he has not the same general respect of his townsmen with his predecessor, nor does he possess the same intelligence fitting him for the duties of the office. Moreover, the place where the office is kept—a butcher's shop—is far less suitable for the purpose. A country post-office may seem a small matter beside the New York Postmaster's office and foreign appointments. The office, however, is but one instance of many, and the principle at stake is the same. Moreover, your country farmer does not much care who dines at the Guildhall, London; but he does care when and in what manner he is to get his letters. I would see a good Administration better.

Respectfully yours, SUBSCRIBER.

RHINECLIFF, N. Y., July 20, 1885.

THREE PUBLIC MEASURES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: At a time when the nation has completed a great struggle, and political parties have no longer any purpose but to occupy office, and know not what purposes to avow, it is fitting that thoughtful citizens take counsel together to determine what measures should be adopted for the benefit of the commonwealth. To the suggestions from many sources which have been made through your columns, please allow me to add a few words.

Three beneficial public measures are: 1. To fill by competitive examination and promotion based on seniority and efficiency the places in the Government service, including those of postmasters and collectors of customs, which are now filled by the patronage of executive and legislative officers. 2. To give representatives of the President seats in both houses of Congress, with power to answer questions for him and to vote and debate. 3. To confer on Congress power to legislate upon all subjects not prohibited to it, and to enumerate the prohibited subjects.

The third measure has the merit of providing a means by which our written law may be made to conform to our practice. We are a people living under a national Government of limited legal powers, which have proved in the past, and are now, unequal to our wants. The paucity of the powers granted to the Government by the Constitution has led a forced construction to be placed upon that document in the past and will again lead to it in the future. This is not an edifying spectacle. It does not tend to increase the people's respect for law, which is hardly what it should be when it is asserted on good authority that more executions take place by lynch law than by the process of the courts, and when trespass and assault-and-battery are practised openly for days together in our principal cities with the assent of a large part of the community, as was the case during the recent strike in Chicago.

The three measures proposed are so related that each would counteract evils which the others, if adopted alone, might bring in their train. The danger from civil-service reform is, that by destroying the spoils it may so weaken the interest taken in elections as to leave them a prey to the rich who can afford to hire workers. Subjecting the personal representatives of the President to public cross-examination, giving them a voice in national legislation and increasing its scope to include all subjects of general interest, would produce live issues, riveting the attention of the people and insuring their interest in elections. The great danger from the latter measures is concentration of power in hands which may abuse it. Civil-service reform, by purifying the Administration and Legislature, would go far to destroy such danger. A danger from merely

giving the President's representatives seats in Congress is, that by strengthening the national Government without increasing its legal powers, usurpation will be produced with accompanying loss of respect for law among the people.

R. H. C.

"LIBERTY AND PROPERTY DEFENCE LEAGUE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: There is in England a "Liberty and Property Defence League" now three years old. Its purpose is to resist over-legislation, maintain freedom of contract, individualism as opposed to socialism. It is non-political. At its annual meeting a few days ago there was reported an individual and corporate membership of 400,000. The report alluded to daily inquiries for its prospectuses and publications from all parts of the country, and from America, the Continent, and the colonies. Are you aware of any extension of that association to this country more specific than those inquiries? So far, organization has all been one-sided as to these matters in the United States. There are some disadvantages, but also some marked probable advantages, in having an organization of the other side here as in England. It would specialize discussion and make it clear and distinct for a known constituency, whereas both the discussion and the constituency are now vague and indefinite. And there might be a more determinate influence put upon legislation and legislators than now if, instead of placing the Legislature between Greenback and other organized isms on one hand and the lobby of special capital interests on the other, it was confronted and directed by a great non-partisan association of those citizens who have a clear and explicit view of what the rights of the individual and of property are.—S. M.C.

KEOKUK, IOWA, July 13, 1885.

THE CHEWING OF GUM AT THE WEST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Your correspondent in the *Nation* of July 9, on "Tobacco and Chewing-Gum," must not take it ill if some of us, his fellow-observers in the West, smile good-naturedly at his virtuous and somewhat vehement indignation.

But, seriously, does he really need to be told that the manners which he there describes as those of a whole section are, at most, merely local? Some of your readers in these parts, presumably men of average taste and discrimination, and fairly well acquainted with some representative communities in the West, know that in these communities such manners are only individual. Might not a careful review of his facts, "in a season of calm weather," convince your correspondent that the same is true also of such manners in the communities with which he is acquainted?—Respectfully, J. R. WILSON.

FAIRFIELD, IOWA, July 15, 1885.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Having been a subscriber and reader of every page of the *Nation* from No. 1, I wish to say that I have never read a more false and calumnious misrepresentation of Western society and manners than that which you publish in No. 1045, over the signature of Werner A. Stille. And it is only because it is published in such a journal as you have the honor of conducting that it ought not to be allowed to pass unchallenged. The animus of the communication is so manifestly that of a very petty sectional prejudice—creating what it is predisposed to find—that you certainly departed from your usual judicial fairness in admitting it to your columns. I have

lived fifty-five years in central Illinois—having been twelve years old when I came here from New England. During much of that time my business led me to be a frequent visitor in all the towns extending through the State from Danville to Quincy, but not including "Highland, Ill.," which your correspondent hails from. With some knowledge and a fair appreciation of what constitutes good manners, and with observing faculties not below the average, I have never seen or "heard" (if a lady "chewing gum," either in a street car or on the street, in private house or public assembly. I have seen the practice, to a limited and harmless extent, among school children. But any one may see that anywhere, East or West.—Respectfully,

E. WOLCOTT.

JACKSONVILLE, ILL., July 14, 1885.

THE NATION AND ITS FRIENDS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Seventeen years ago in a mining camp in Idaho, the news agent, who happened to be a Yale graduate, called my attention to the *Nation*. I have read and preserved every number since, and have persuaded several friends to become subscribers. The only criticism I have heard, save the spitefulness of Bourbons and "workers," was that of an Englishman to whom I loaned the *Nation* for a year or more in return for the *Spectator*—that "it was so good, it was a pity there was not more of it." I have noticed several political and social movements which reached the heart of true reform suggested by the *Nation* and advocated for years, till the light began to dawn on other periodicals, and they would take the thing up with a hullabaloo, as though it had never been heard of before.

I have often been refreshed by seeing worthless books slashed to pieces, and I have never been disappointed in a literary work heartily commended by the *Nation*.

The following is an extract from a letter recently received from a successful physician, who was a member of my household when he started in life as a teacher:

"By my association with you I learned to value the *Nation*. It has been my companion for ten years, and has had much to do in shaping my methods of thinking. Many of my old pupils take it. I would wish to put it in the hands of every person in this country, if, beforehand, I could change them so that they would appreciate sound truths stripped of all sentimentality and rubbish. I feel grateful to you for having brought me in contact with such a paper. It has made me liberal in politics, and still quite a determined Democrat, in full sympathy with Cleveland in his herculean efforts to reform the civil service."—Yours very truly,

G. D. B. MILLER.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, July 15, 1885.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Perhaps a tardy congratulation on the completion of "Twenty Years" may not be out of place, and may be more appreciated because of its tardiness, as in the first week or two after that event so many friends doubtless sent in their commendations that one in the number would hardly make sensible impression.

I can remember almost twenty years ago the depressing effect upon boyish exuberance of a summons from my father to "sit down and read this"—some article from the broad two-columned pages of your paper. It was heavy reading then, and the boy of ten years might be pardoned for finding it less interesting than "Oliver Optic" or a murder trial.

The perusal then begun has continued almost steadily until this time. My thoughts upon po-

litical and social topics have been moulded, I suppose to a degree of which I am unconscious, by your weekly lessons, and while I have expressed to you opinions and judgments at variance with your own, I am glad to acknowledge that these are outnumbered very far by those in which I agree with you—many of which I have indeed imbibed from you.

I hope that your useful work will continue through coming years, and that the future will show a fidelity to wholesome political and social truths equal to those of the past.

Yours truly,

B.

WEST VIRGINIA, July 14, 1885.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Your recent editorial, "Twenty Years Later," and the published correspondence arising from it, have interested me greatly. I have not, however, seen in the letters any special mention of the Notes and Reviews, which are to me, perhaps, the most valuable part of the *Nation*. To one living in the country, away from any educational or literary centre, and desiring some knowledge of what is best in the books of the day, the Notes and Reviews are simply invaluable. I have invariably found it safe to purchase any book, in my field of study and interest, that has been favorably noticed or reviewed by the *Nation*. I cannot say the same of any one of the scientific and literary journals to which I have access.—Yours truly,

D. S. KELLOGG.

PLATTSBURGH, N. Y., July 20, 1885.

Notes.

THE first two volumes of the publications of the New York Shakespeare Society will appear in September. No. 1 is Mr. Guernsey's "Ecclesiastical Law in Hamlet," and No. 2 is a study in Warwickshire dialect, by Appleton Morgan. Brentano is the Society's publishing agent.

"A Handbook of Poetics," by Francis B. Gummere, head master of the Swain Free School, New Bedford, Mass., is announced by Ginn & Co.

Under the general title of "Favorite Poems," by Jean Ingelow, Roberts Bros., Boston, publish in one volume three illustrated books already issued by them separately. The first of the three is the "Songs of Seven," first published in this form in 1881; the second is "The High Tide on the Coast of Lincolnshire," 1883; and the third "The Shepherd Lady, and Other Poems," published in 1875.

Some of the English magazines reprinted by the Leonard Scott Publishing Company, of Philadelphia, are advertised on the covers of the magazines as "authorized editions." From such an announcement, it might at least be expected that the publishers took some care to reproduce the articles as they appeared in the original English editions. But, whether from haste in getting out the magazines, or from carelessness in proof-reading, these reprints are characterized by many gross blunders. In an article on Mr. Swinburne's poetry in the reprint of the *May Fortnightly*, the title of his poem "Atalanta in Calydon" is thrice printed "Atalanta in Claydon"; Rizzio appears as Rizzo; Wordsworth is spoken of as "the chosed poet of Philistianism"; the "unique command of music" becomes the "unique demand of music"; and where a Greek word appeared in the original a blank space is left in the reprint. In other articles in the same number of the *Fortnightly*, Canning is printed Cannon; the "Conservative party" is called the "Conservation party"; Crompton appears as Compton; Kendall becomes Lendell; and so on through the whole of the magazine. Other magazines of the

series which we have lately had occasion to use exhibit the same carelessness in printing.

Trübner & Co. send us the first (July) number of a *Revue Coloniale Internationale*, published at Amsterdam under the auspices of the Dutch Colonial Association. Curiously enough, not only is it not devoted exclusively to Dutch colonial interests, but apparently the Dutch language will not be employed in editing it. Contributions in English, French, and German are *en règle*. Sir Richard Temple's article on "Imperial Federation," and Commander Cameron's review of Stanley's latest volume, can neither of them be called weighty. M. E. Levasseur writes on the productive forces of British Australasia; Dr. F. Fabri on German Colonial Policy. There are geographical notes, and an extensive bibliography.

Science for July 10 proclaims itself truly a "sanitary number," being mostly occupied with articles on hygiene, on quarantines, yellow fever, river pollution, soils, city wells, house-drainage, etc., etc. A hopeful article on the Tehuantepec ship-railway is accompanied by a map of the route, on which the operation of transporting ships is pictured.

J. T. Headley's 'Darien Exploring Expedition' has been reprinted from *Harper's Magazine* in the Franklin Square Library. It forms an exciting chapter in the ship-canal romance of the Isthmus.

Any magazine might pride itself on offering to its readers an article and a series like that begun in *Outing* for July by Capt. John G. Bourke, U. S. A. Captain Bourke is the author of that already standard work, 'The Snake Dance of the Moquis,' and his present narrative deals with the famous reduction of the Apache stronghold in the Sierra Madre by General Crook, two years ago. His graphic style, his humor, his thorough knowledge of the Indians and of the expedition, in which he took part, make these articles an entertaining and important contribution to current history.

Dr. J. F. Payne writes on 'Old Herbals, German and Italian,' in Cassell's *Magazine of Art* for August, and rightly calls attention to the artistic value of the woodcut illustrations in these botanies of the fifteenth to seventeenth century. Several of those which he reproduces would serve now as examples in linear draughtsmanship, and nearly all are decorative. An engraving after Richmond's portrait of Andrew Lang will also attract attention in this number.

The redemption of Niagara from the manufacturer, the extortioner, and the mountebank has led to two memorial publications. 'Free Niagara' is a pretty and tasteful pamphlet giving a history of the movement to secure the international park, and is ornamented in colors and with marginal designs, and provided with a map. It does credit to the "art-printing works" of Matthews, Northrup & Co., Buffalo. 'Niagara Park Illustrated' (New York: Niagara Publishing Co.) is much inferior typographically, but the illustrations are more pertinent. The editing consists in quotations from Lyell, Tyn-dall, Dickens, Martineau, Hawthorne, Willis, Charles Mackay, A. Trollope, and sundry poets, which are entertaining enough. Since Captain Webb's last swim is related, one is rather surprised to find no mention of Blondin in these memorials.

F. A. Ringler & Co. have issued a very curious 'Souvenir' of the late season of grand German opera at the Metropolitan Opera-House, under Dr. Leopold Damrosch. It consists of a large number of sheets of Japan paper on which are printed facsimiles of a scrap-book collection of the musical criticisms of the New York press, with sundry ornamental designs enclosing the personnel of the opera management and staff,

and with a portrait of Doctor Damrosch, a scene from "Die Walküre," etc. The mounting is in the form of a roll.

From Henry Stevens & Son, London, we have the first part of vol. iii of 'Stevens's Historical Nuggets,' a descriptive account of their collection of books relating to America; and also Part 1 of a 'Catalogue of Rare Books relating to America (A-Cot).' The first of the 'Nuggets' series was published in 1862, in two volumes, and eight more are now in contemplation, the form being the same and the numbering of the several works for sale being continuous. The bibliographical care bestowed on the entries warrants the Messrs. Stevens in inviting subscription to the series as a permanent work of reference. The note on Acosta's 'De Natura Novi Orbis' (1589), for example, fills more than two pages of fine print—an absurd outlay if the sale of a five-pound book were alone the object. The 'Catalogue' is a selection from the 'Nuggets.'

Mr. Quaritch's Catalogue No. 363 is devoted to works on the history, ethnology, and philology of America. Of the quality of its execution it would be superfluous to speak.

A few months ago an enterprising London journalist got himself certified by two qualified physicians as a dangerous lunatic, and locked up at the instance of his friends in a well-known private asylum. He stayed there three days, was then rescued according to a previous arrangement, and wrote several articles upon his adventures and upon the iniquitous condition of the English Lunacy Laws. These articles, appearing in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, attracted a great deal of attention, and led to a Government inquiry into the matter. They were followed by several others of a similar kind—"A Day on a Hansom," "The Burglar's Vade Mecum," and a series of papers illustrating the practical working of the so-called matrimonial newspapers, of which there are three flourishing ones in London. The author of these sketches is Mr. Charles G. Payne, and Messrs. Vizetelly & Co. are about to issue them in a small volume entitled 'Matrimony by Advertisement, and Other Journalistic Adventures.'

Americans in London a few weeks ago were much amused or annoyed, according to their temperament, by meeting all along the Strand and Regent Street men carrying boards upon which was inscribed in large letters, "The Great American Receipt Book, written by Professor Mead, ex-President of Harvard College, U. S. A.," followed by some supposed extracts from the *New York Herald* and a Boston newspaper, expressing highly eulogistic opinions of the value of the book. The principal attraction set forth by the vendors was "How to make gin, whiskey, rum, and brandy without alcohol, as good as can be bought at the shops. Original price sixpence, reduced to one penny." Any one who invested a penny secured sixteen pages of miscellaneous recipes, apparently half a century old, giving such valuable information as "To make the Silver Plating," "A Grand Remedy for Liver Disease," "An Excellent Eye-water," "To Create an Appetite," and "To put an Egg into a Bottle."

The use of English in the kitchen in France is as bizarre as the use of French in the kitchen in England or America. We remember having seen the simple ginger-snap set down grandiloquently in the bill of fare of an American summer hotel as *gateaux de gingembre*. And a recent bill of fare at the Grand Hôtel in Paris offered "Irish-stew à la française"—truly a marvellous dish. In a certain restaurant of the Palais Royal, however, there is a bi-lingual bill of fare which recalls the Portuguese Guide to Conversation if indeed it does not "break the record." In this we are proffered our choice of "barbue dutch manner" (*barbue à la Hollan-*

daise), or "eel in tartar," or of "a sole at Colbert." We may have "beef at flamande" or "beef at mode" (*œuf à la mode*), or "beefsteak with haricots." The *cotelette sauté à la minute* appears as "one mutton chop at minute," and a *cotelette de chevreuil* appears as "a chops of kid" (*sic*). We may order, if we will, a "fillet napolitan manner," or a "chicken at Marengo," or a "sweet-bread at financière." Hitherto we have held as legendary, only, the translation of *riz de veau à la financière* as "smile of the little cow in the style of the female financier"—but, after this, nothing is impossible.

In 1876 the Paris Société Bibliographique offered a prize for a catalogue of documents, printed or manuscript, relating to the corporations and associations of workmen. Hippolyte Blanc's 'Bibliographie des corporations ouvrières avant 1789,' Paris, 1885, was adjudged the most complete work offered to the Society. The division of printed books comprises 957 articles. The manuscripts are catalogued under the name of the several depositaries. Certain pieces, such as songs, satires, and facetiae, which illustrate the subject are included under a special number.

Capt. C. Fernandez Duro, favorably known by his writings on Spanish history, and in this country best known as the author of an account of Peñalosa's expedition to New Mexico, has of late given his attention to researches regarding the Armada. The results of his labors are presented in two large octavo volumes, under the title, 'La armada invencible,' Madrid, 1885. He has brought together documents showing almost conclusively that the popular notion regarding the cause of the defeat of the Armada is erroneous. The incompetence of the Duke of Medina Sidonia, the commander, and not the unfriendly action of the elements, caused the failure of this incomparable fleet.

As a fruit of the present Pope's liberality in throwing open the Vatican Archives to scholars, we have a first volume of the 'Regestum Clementis Papæ V.' (Rome: Spithöver; New York: Christern). The introduction relates the history of the Archives, and among the unpublished documents which see the light in the appendix are the memoirs of Marino Marini, concerning the seizure and restitution of the Archives in the time of Napoleon I.

Hinrich has just published a third edition of the 'Assyrische Lesestücke' of Friedrich Delitzsch. The work has been entirely rewritten, and contains new texts, several pages on grammar, and a valuable glossary.

Mr. Henry F. Waters's genealogical researches in England have clearly an international aspect and value. It is not surprising, therefore, that the Earl of Dufferin should send a significant contribution to the fund which enabled Mr. Waters to pursue his discoveries concerning John Harvard. He writes at the same time to Mr. Charles A. Drew, of Boston, of his hearty sympathy with the movement, and his pride in having a right to recall his connection "with the noble university."

—Our country is so vast, and the belief in its entire homogeneity is so natural, that the accounts which sometimes reach us of the state of society in provincial districts come with a slight shock of surprise. The second paper of Mr. Warner's, in the August *Atlantic*, in which he continues the narrative of his travels on horseback among the northwest mountains of North Carolina, is of this nature. That this was a wild country, we knew; but the veil of humor and picturesqueness which softens the hard lines of human life there does not hide the penury, the barrenness and ugliness, the hideousness, as Arnold would say, of the sight humanity presents in its material coarseness and spiritual poverty.

Man is there very close to the soil. Such a story as that of the woman who gazed curiously at the minister praying with her, to see what he was about, and said, "Why, a man did that when he put my girl in a hole," is in fact a very hideous thing. We are apt to think of "the border" as far off, and so it is, along the line where the central stream of settlement has moved; but north and south of that line are whole tracts of country which are still on "the border" in civilization—and what one of them looks like, Mr. Warner tells very graphically. These counties seem to be now, however, in the beginning of the second stage of "settling up," denoted here, as in the West, by the interest of distant wealth in the resources of the country, and by the first (and effective) temperance raid. The time of the solitary settlers has gone by, and, in view of their life, the coming even of the capitalists is devoutly to be wished, though not as a consummation. The other articles have the usual variety of literary interest—a long and minute study of the Convent of Port Royal in its illustrious time, a notice of Jean Ingelow's work in fiction, and Doctor Holmes's prose and poetry, being the most prominent. The best, both in style and matter, of all the articles is a short essay on collegiate studies and their value in education, by Prof. E. R. Sill: the balance of mind, the openness to all views, the clearness of his own opinion, and the pungency with which he brings it home to the sound, practical sense of men, if they have any, are remarkable; but its fine quality lies in its recognition of education as the spiritualizing agency, and its plea for such administration of schools as shall never forget that it is not the brains or even the brains of youth that are being trained, but the soul that is being set free. This is to say not merely that he is a humanist, but one bold enough to take the high ground of humanism.

—Harper's is largely made up of travel sketches. The river Ottawa, with its new home of the Trappist monks, who were ousted from France a few years ago; a corner of Long Island forgotten and left behind until the summer boarders opened it up in their prospecting and made the old fishermen sigh for the days of quiet; Aix-les-Bains, and the country of the unattractive Druzes, are the subjects of anecdote and sketching pencil and pen. And fairly to be reckoned with these is an elaborate article contrasting the American and English systems of railroad travel, in which the writer seems unwilling to draw conclusions derogatory to the credit of either, but prefers to say amiably that each provides its public with the sort of comfort which that public most prizes. The principal discomforts of the English system—the enforced sitting without change of position, the difficulty of getting light and air except at the corners, and the lack of that privacy which one may always find in a crowd, however mixed—are not mentioned; nor is any notice taken of the fact (which underlies so many of the differences in the systems) that convenience on long journeys is principally thought of here, while short ones are the rule in England. The check system, however, is certainly invading the "luggage" department. The illustrations of this article—such as the train passing through an American city—are not always calculated to give an exactly truthful idea of our customs. The rather loosely constructed account of the "Decoration Instinct in Birds" has some well-selected information, but belongs, by its engravings, really to the pictorial part of the number.

—The steady march of Mr. Leslie Stephen's great 'Dictionary of National Biography' (Macmillan) is very gratifying. Volume iii finishes the Ba's, and takes in a few Be's. The Bakers lead

off, and their array of thirty-five is unapproached save by the Barkers, who number thirty-four. Balfe, F. M. Balfour, Sir Joseph Banks, Mrs. Barbauld, Praise-God Barebones (whose "position commercially," we read, "was a stable one," and who was not an altogether ridiculous person), John Barbour, Alexander and Robert Barclay, Bernard Barton, Richard Bathurst (the "very good hater" of Doctor Johnson's proverbial phrase), Richard Baxter, Baretti (the sketch of whom is one of the most entertaining in the book, as might have been expected), Isaac Barrow the mathematician, and Henry Barrow the reputed founder of Congregationalism, Robert Barker the reputed inventor of panoramas, Bartolozzi, Baskerville the printer (another of the notable sketches), Sir Charles Barry the architect—such is a chance selection of names from the present volume. Elizabeth Barrett is to be treated as Mrs. Browning, and we have likewise a reference from Juliana Barnes to Juliana Berners, the better-known name of this literary angler. The origin of the ballad of "Auld Robin Gray" is related under Lady Anne Barnard, the author; and another, older ballad is called to mind under Sir Andrew Barton. The exploits of many of the greatest personages between these covers have done no more for their memory than the song, "I'd be a Butterfly," for Thomas Haynes Bayly's, or his "She wore a Wreath of Roses," or "Oh, no, we never mention her," or "Why don't the Men propose?" Playwrights like Bayly, and actresses like the two Mrs. Barrys, are duly regarded in this catholic Dictionary. Of the violinist Thomas Baltzar (1630-1633), we read that Anthony à Wood, "the greatest judge of music that ever was, did . . . stoop down to Baltzar's feet to see whether he had a huff on; that is to say, whether he was a devil or not, because he acted beyond the parts of a man."

—Turning now to what we may call the American portion, we remark Colonel Barré, the Parliamentary defender of the revolted colonies, whose name is perpetuated in our town nomenclature, and whose portrait, we are told, is in the group about the dying Wolfe in West's picture; John Barry, a commodore of our navy during the Revolution; Col. Henry Barry, who fought on the other side at Bunker's Hill, Long Island, and White Plains; Mark Baskett, a London printer, whose imprint is alleged to have been misappropriated by Kneeland & Green, Boston, when they brought out in a small quarto the first Bible printed in America in the English language—if they ever did produce such an edition; Alexander Baring (Lord Ashburton); Joshua Bates, etc., etc. We must not omit mention also of Joseph Barker, an eccentric Englishman who, beginning Methodist, ran through the gamut of belief and unbelief on both sides of the Atlantic, living many years in this country, speaking and writing and publishing much, taking part in and against the anti-slavery agitation, farmer at the West and lecturer in the East, and finally dying at Omaha in 1875. The two pages allotted to him are a fair sample of the attention given to middle-class biography in this Dictionary.

—The mystery which has hitherto surrounded the personality of the author of 'Underground Russia' is at last removed by the statement, recently made upon good authority, that the prominent Nihilist who writes under the pseudonym of "Stepniak" is Michael Dragomanoff, a prolific writer on historical and political subjects. As he is chiefly known in this country by his later writings, many may be interested to know something of his early career. According to De Gubernatis, he was born in 1841, at Gadiatch in Little Russia, and studied at the gymnasium of Poltava, from which, however, he was expelled before completing the course, on account of his

somewhat turbulent spirits. A few months later he was admitted to the University of Kiev, mainly through the favor of the celebrated surgeon Pirogoff, at that time one of the faculty. After completing his studies at the University he obtained employment as a teacher in a gymnasium, and in 1865 was called to give instruction in ancient history in the University of Kiev. Here his radical ideas, and his open sympathy with the agitation in favor of the autonomy of the Ukraine, brought him under the suspicion of the Government and stood in the way of his professional advancement, and it was not until 1873 that he was promoted to the dignity of "ordinary professor," which, however, he was not to be permitted long to retain, for in the following year his resignation was demanded in consequence of some articles he had published in various reviews, attacking the Minister of Public Instruction. Thus deprived of his position, he betook himself to Geneva, where he began the publication of the Ukraine review *Gromada*, in which he advocated the adoption of some form of federal government for Russia, maintaining that federalism alone could solve satisfactorily the problem of government for races so widely different in origin and character as those which compose that vast empire. He also contributed numerous articles on Russian subjects to various European periodicals, besides issuing occasional pamphlets, and seems to have spent some time in Italy, where in 1882 '*Da Russia Sotterranea*,' the first work to appear under his now well-known pseudonym, was published. In this work he describes himself as having been formerly editor of the revolutionary journal *Zemlya i Volya*, secretly printed at St. Petersburg. Since then he seems to have taken up his abode in London, whence his latest writings are dated.

—The reception at the French Academy last month of M. Victor Duruy was rather tame. It was disappointing to those who expected a courteous, semi-political polemic between the ex-Minister of Napoleon III. and M. Perraud, the type of "the Christian, the apostolical bishop." M. Duruy, who once called the Emperor "the most liberal man of his empire," had fortunately a better claim than the long favor he enjoyed as Minister of Public Instruction to a place among the Immortals. In his long reception speech he confined himself to the praise of his predecessor, the historian Mignet, whose life he recounted and whose works he analyzed in succession in the conventional Academic manner. Mgr. Perraud, Bishop of Autun, presided in his religious robes, and answered the new member. The interest of the occasion was concentrated on the remarks of the prelate, who, in a well-written, well-read speech, in which he never for a moment forgot his sacerdotal character, gave such praise as could be expected from him to the brilliant historian of Mary Stuart and of the French Revolution. Passing on to M. Duruy, he dwelt especially upon the '*Histoire des Romains*,' solemnly taking the recipiendary to task on account of the regrets expressed by him at the disappearance of Roman civilization. True to his priestly office, M. Perraud claims that Christianity, which has "taught men to live and to die," has left no room for regrets concerning the things it has swept away. M. Duruy in this controversy had the advantage over M. Duruy, who by traditional usage was prevented from answering him. He therefore freely indulged in quoting Saint Ambrose and in recalling some of the grand, diloquent commonplaces of Bossuet, which in former days he may have heard from the lips of his teacher Duruy, when he sat under him as a disciple by the side of the youths then known as D'Aumale, Augier, and Sardou, now his fellow-Academicians. The next receptions at the French Academy will be those of MM. Joseph Bertrand

and Ludovic Halévy. The election of a successor to Edmond About has been postponed until autumn, as no result could be obtained after voting five times on June 25th, an absolute majority of the members present being required. The candidates were M. Droz, who on the fifth ballot received 10 votes, M. Léon Say receiving 9, M. Manuel 5, and M. de Bornier 5. About had been elected to succeed Jules Sandeau, and as he died before pronouncing the eulogium on his predecessor, the new Academician will have to speak of both Sandeau and About. After this election two more places are to be filled, those of De Noailles and of Victor Hugo.

—The intricacy of the art of railroad administration—we might almost call it a science—is well illustrated by the programme of subjects for discussion at the International Railroad Conference which is to meet at Brussels next month. The project for this conference has been warmly taken up by the Belgian Government, and delegates from a large number of countries, including the United States, have signified their intention to be present. One set of questions deals with the various systems of signalling and the effect of block signals or interlocking switches upon the capacity of a road for handling traffic. There is another set of questions concerning the proper construction of stations for passengers or freight; the means for facilitating interchange of traffic, whether between roads directly connecting or between different stations in the same town. Still another set of problems arises where a section of line is operated by two or more distinct companies—questions as to the organization of service and the distribution of expenses for construction and maintenance. Other sections of the programme deal with the means of diminishing expenses for road, equipment, or train and station service; with arrangements for the safety of passengers or employees, whether by brakes or by improved methods of car construction; with the applications of electricity to railroad service. One highly important section deals with the relative economy of different systems of construction, and with the proper management of narrow-gauge roads, or lines with light traffic. The last section is concerned with railroad statistics, and in particular with the attempt to devise common forms for railroad returns which shall make comparisons between the practice of different nations easier and more fruitful than they are at present.

—The purpose of the conference is a good one, and it is to be hoped that it may succeed. Any really careful attempt to compare the railroad practice of different nations is worth a great deal. Too often each nation insists on learning for itself what the experience of some other nation might have taught it ten years before. Unfortunately the programme, detailed as it is, is not quite comprehensive enough. It hardly touches upon the lines on which American railroad economy has made its most wonderful advances in the last fifteen or twenty years—advances in which Europe is only just beginning to take part. Among these we may mention the increased weight of rolling stock, by which a far greater proportion of "paying load" to "dead weight" is secured; and the system of "backloading," that is to say, of almost absurdly low rates to secure loads for cars which must otherwise be returned empty. While we have a great deal to learn from Europe in the matter of railroad engineering, Europe has at least as much to learn from us in the matter of business activity. Their railroad men carefully adapt themselves to existing conditions. Our railroad men aim to create new conditions to suit themselves. Sometimes they fail and sometimes they injure the community; but, on the whole, they have had an extraordi-

nary degree of success, in which the community has shared.

—The July issue of *Nord und Süd* is No. 100, so the editor (Paul Lindau) celebrates its jubilee by publishing, exclusive of the usual amount of matter, his portrait and a very brief contribution—in many cases only two or three lines—from the contributors to previous numbers. There are 131 of these represented, and the list of the dead is also a long one—for a period of only eight years, a very long one. It includes Auerbach, Dohm, Geibel, Gutzkow, Laube, Schücking, and F. Kürnberger among writers of belles-lettres, while the list of scholars is much longer, including H. von Brandt, A. E. Brehm, H. Hettner, F. von Hiller, J. Huber, J. Hübner, F. Kreyssig, H. Lotz, H. B. Oppenheim, E. Osenbrüggen, V. von Rüstow, and A. Woltmann—not to mention numerous eminent professional men whose names are not familiar to the general public. From the start, *Nord und Süd* has been the best edited and, from a literary point of view, the most attractive of German periodicals, while its very tasteful exterior, convenient shape, and the artistic excellence of the etched portraits of living authors, artists, etc., with which each number is adorned, have, we are sure, largely contributed to its success. Its writers are for the most part the same as those of the *Rundschau*, and the topics treated are of the same character. But there is an easily perceptible difference between the two, due in part to the fact that the *Rundschau* has never ceased to suffer from the bonds imposed by itself in claiming to be, and being loudly proclaimed as, an imitation of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. There perhaps never was a better imitation, both within and without, but the projectors of the *Rundschau* forgot that while they would have no difficulty in getting contributions equal (or superior) in scholarship to those of the *Revue*, they could not provide the grace of style which somewhat relieves the heaviness of the *Revue's* make-up. The dishes on the *Rundschau's* table are wholesome and generally well cooked, but they lack sauce. Whether it is due to more careful editorial pruning, or to greater tact of fitting subject and author, we have no means of knowing, but the result seems to be that the cooking on *Nord und Süd's* table is more uniformly good, and that "sauce" is not always wanting.

CENTRAL ASIA.

Russian Central Asia, including Kuldja, Bokhara, Khiva, and Merv. By Henry Lansdell, D.D. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1885. 2 vols. 8vo.

THE last twelve years have been fertile in books on Central Asia. Of course, the political questions which have come up at various times have had much to do with this. But it was only in 1873 that this region became accessible to the people of the West. In that year there were at least six Anglo-Saxon travellers in Central Asia: Mr. MacGahan, who, as correspondent of the *York Herald*, made a wonderful trip to Khiva, and whose book "Campaigning on the Oxus," will always be a classic of travel; Mr. Schuyler, who visited the remaining portions of Russian Central Asia, as well as the then independent Khanates of Bukhara and Khokand; Mr. David Ker, who went as far as Samarkand, and Mr. Ashton Dilke, who performed the same journey in about the same time and travelled in some unknown parts of the province of Kuldja. Mr. Dilke was at that time engaged on a work on the Russian Empire, but he published only articles on Kuldja and the Caucasus. For some reason he became dissatisfied with his book, which was already in type, and suppressed it. Owing to his untimely death we are forever deprived of what,

to judge from the portions we have seen, would have been a very valuable addition to our knowledge of Russia. Colonel Valentine Baker and Lieutenant Gill—the latter the same who subsequently explored China and was murdered by the Arabs during the Egyptian war—travelled through the Turkoman districts along the Attrek, and Baker even tried to go to Merv. Captain Hugo Stumm, also, of the German army, was allowed to accompany the Russian expedition to Khiva, of which he wrote an interesting and very detailed account.

Since that time the difficulties placed in the way of travellers have been slight. In 1874 the late Major Herbert Wood, of the English Engineers, made a careful study of the mouths of the Oxus, and in the same year Captain Napier was travelling on the Khorassan frontier, trying to pick up information for his Government and to ascertain how far the Turkomans could be utilized for opposition to Russian advances. There were several of these English officers who "haunted the Turkoman frontier," as the Russian Foreign Minister expressed it—Col. C. M. McGregor, of the Bengal Staff Corps, in 1875, who, four years later, published the narrative of his journey, "Through Khorassan"; Capt. F. W. H. Butler, who made his first journey in 1876, disguised as a Chinaman, and his second together with Captain Napier in 1878, both at that time sent on secret missions by the Indian Government. Butler did not in all respects carry out his instructions, and, after he had written a letter to the newspapers claiming that he had constructed the fortress of Geok Tepé, which made such a formidable resistance to General Skobelev, although in reality he had not been within a hundred miles of the spot, he was retired without being allowed to obtain the rank of major, to which he would have had a right in a few days. Colonel Stewart, who was sent by the English Government as an agent to reside at Khaf (for the Afghans would not allow him to live at Herat), made several journeys to the Turkoman frontier, in one case disguised as an Armenian horse-dealer. The only account of Colonel Stewart's expeditions that we know was a paper published in the Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society. His full reports were solely for the use of his Government. In 1875 Captain Burnaby made his famous ride to Khiva, which he reached in January, 1876. To his journey obstacles were indeed placed by the Russian Government, as was very natural under the circumstances, although, if there had not existed a little jealousy on the part of the military attaché at St. Petersburg, Burnaby would probably have been allowed to continue his journey. In 1876 and subsequent years Mr. Ujfalvy-Kövesd, an Hungarian gentleman, made an expedition in Kuldja, Ferghana, Samarkand, and the adjoining provinces, under the auspices of the French Government, chiefly for the purpose of collecting anthropological and ethnological information. He was accompanied by his wife and one or two others. Mme. Ujfalvy's account was published first in the *Tour du Monde*. Two volumes, containing the more general results of his work, have been published by Ujfalvy himself, besides a number of shorter and more exclusively scientific papers. We owe also many valuable short papers to Dr. G. Capus and Mr. G. Bonvalot, whose book, "En Asie Centrale," though light, is worth reading. When active operations were begun against the Turkomans, Mr. Edmond O'Donovan went out to that region as correspondent of the *Daily News*, and finally penetrated to Merv, where he was held in captivity for several months. A rollicking, good-natured Irishman, unfortunately addicted to drink, he wrote in an entertaining way, and his book, "The Merv Oasis," has permanent value as a picture of a

state of society which has probably forever passed away, for under the Russians Merv can never be the den of brigands which it was before. In 1880 Mr. E. Delmar Morgan visited Kuldja, and in 1882 Doctor Lansdell, whose book we have before us, travelled through the whole of Russian Central Asia. At about the same time two Frenchmen, Baron Benoist-Méchin and M. de Mailly-Chalou, made an adventurous journey from the shores of the northern Pacific through Manchuria and Russian Central Asia, and from Khiva to the Caspian, going even to Merv. So far they have published only a few papers in the *Bulletin of the Paris Société de Géographie*. M. Moser, who is apparently an engineer, has also travelled within the last two or three years in the Turkoman Steppe, and has given his impressions in agreeable form in a recent number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. Now we hear also of a Dr. Van Orden, an American medical missionary, as writing from Khiva in December, 1884.

Meanwhile, the Russians themselves, the masters of the country, have not been idle. They have scientifically explored the mountain regions south and west of Samarkand, until they are as well known as many parts of Russia; they have measured, sounded, and surveyed the greater part of the Oxus; they have crossed the Pamir in all directions, have investigated a great part of the Tien-shan, and have sent surveying parties in all directions through the Turkoman Steppe. Here they made three important discoveries—one, an easy carriage road from Khiva to the Tsarevitch Gulf, at the northeast end of the Caspian Sea; an easy route for a railway from Krasnovodsk, on the Caspian, to Herat itself, whence it is possible to continue it to the frontier of India. This road has been laid down in part, and the telegraph line has been extended as far as Sarakhs and Merv. They have also at last found out that it is impossible to divert the waters of the Oxus into the Caspian Sea, and that probably at no time was there ever any regular communication between the Oxus and the Caspian. No such communication could be made except by overflowing vast stretches of country and by cutting canals, at an expense of hundreds of millions of dollars. The latest theory is that the Sea of Aral and the lakes Sary-kamysh formed at one time a single basin with two deep depressions. The Oxus ran into the southern portion, now Lake Sary-kamysh, from which it is possible that at times an overflow of water ran down to the Caspian, though what was supposed to be a river-bed is now proved to be the bottom of a dried-up gulf. The remains of animal life found along it all belong to salt-water and not to fresh-water species.

The Russian officers and officials in Central Asia comprise a fair number of specialists. Mushketoff, for example, devotes himself to geology, to the study of glaciers and volcanoes; and his researches about volcanic action are extremely curious. Oshanin is a collector of hemiptera. Even General Komaroff, the Governor of the Trans-Caspian province, is an ardent entomologist. Without forgetting Ivanoff, Severtsoff, Maieff, and others, special mention should be made of Dr. Albert Regel, the son of the well-known director of the botanical garden at St. Petersburg. As district physician, first at Kuldja and then at Tashkent, he familiarized himself with the languages and character of the people, and was therefore able to conduct many botanical expeditions in the Tien-shan and the Pamir, travelling again and again in the little-known Darvaz and Karategin, and finally journeying a year ago to Merv and the Afghan frontier, everywhere finding much that was new to science. Even in adventurous journeys, the Russians yield nothing to Westerners. Mr. Lessar surveyed for a railway route nearly the whole of

the Turkoman Steppe, discovered the road to Herat, as well as the falsity of the Oxus-Caspian theory, and knows southern Turkmenia so well that he has been an expert engaged in carrying on the Afghan boundary discussion in London. Major Alikhanoff visited Merv before its capture, in the disguise of a native merchant, which was for him comparatively easy, as he was a Mussulman from the Caucasus. But the palm should be given to Colonel Grodekoff, who in 1878 rode with only two attendants from Samarkand through Bukhara to the Afghan town of Hazret-i-sherif, where he was detained for a fortnight until permission could be obtained from Cabul for his journey; then through the almost unknown regions of Saripul and Maimene to Herat, and thence to Meshed and through Persia to the Caucasus. He did all this in Russian uniform, without the slightest attempt at disguise; and his simple account of his journey, which has been translated by Mr. Marvin, deserves to rank with the book of MacGahan.

Most of the Russian explorers have published accounts of their expeditions in the *Bulletin of the Imperial Russian Geographical Society*, from which the essential parts have been extracted either in the *Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society* or in *Petermann's Mittheilungen*. For two books, both of importance, the Western reader may have to wait for some time: one is the account of the Russian mission to Cabul under General Stoliéff in 1878, written by Dr. Zavorsky, who accompanied the mission as physician, and subsequently made another journey to Afghanistan, where he attended the Amir Shir Ali through his last illness. The other is 'Turkmenia,' by General Grodekoff, which gives not only the account of the campaign against the Turkomans, but a thorough geographical and statistical account of the whole Trans-Caspian region. The works of all these travellers up to date have been thoroughly studied and made use of, so far as they touch on geography, by M. Élisée Réclus, in the remarkable volume, 'Asie russe,' of his great geographical work.

In order to complete this summary, it is necessary now to speak of compilations and political pamphlets. As Russian examples we may cite the various books of Venukoff, Kostenko, Terentief, and Soboleff. In England there is a group of retired Indian officers who see everything through Indian eyes, and to whom anything that may affect in any way the interest of India is of far more importance than all the rest of the British Empire. Of these, one of the greatest offenders, and at the same time the man of by far the greatest learning, is Sir Henry Rawlinson; and although exception may frequently be taken to his statements, as being too much influenced by the Indian feeling, yet we know always that his knowledge and experience are unimpeachable, and that he thoroughly believes everything which he says. After him, in a much lower rank, comes Colonel G. B. Malletson. But Malletson's works are too evidently compilations, written plainly for a political purpose. There are, however, others who wish to obtain social or political position by posing either as geographers or as patriots greatly interested in the future of England and the East; and to attain their objects they feel it necessary to keep themselves continually before the public either by translating with comments the results of Russian work, or by writing pamphlets about each new phase of the Central-Asian question. Such are a number of the inner circle of directing members of the Royal Geographical Society, and such are Mr. Demetrius Boulger, whose books are the merest compilations and practically worthless, and Mr. Charles Marvin, of whom something more should be said. Mr. Marvin has never been nearer

Central Asia than Baku, and by the way his book, 'The Region of Eternal Fire,' which treats of the petroleum deposits in the Caucasus, and of the possibility of competition with America, is well worth reading by Americans; but he passed his early life in Russia, knows the Russian language, and is well acquainted with the literature concerning Central Asia, and especially with what appears from time to time in the Russian reviews and newspapers. His books are for the most part made up of translations of some fresh Russian report or pamphlet suited to his purpose, interspersed with a good deal of padding and with theories of his own which do not always hold water. Nevertheless, there is not one of his books that does not contain something worth reading. In his last, 'The Russians at the Gates of Herat,' which is in reality nothing but a political pamphlet, he gives a résumé of all that he has previously written, put, however, from the extreme Anglo-Indian point of view. Although partisan, he attempts to deal fairly by the Russians, and in this respect is an exception to most writers on the subject. Mr. Robert Michell should be classed differently. His work is hardly known; for, with the exception of Russian travels and reports which he has translated for the Royal Geographical Society, nearly all that he has done has been marked 'secret and confidential,' intended only for his superiors in the India Office. Nevertheless, his work has furnished much information for the greater part of what has recently been written in England about Central Asia. Modest and unassuming, he has asked no credit for himself, except in a volume which he published in connection with his brother, now the English consul at St. Petersburg, 'The Russians in Central Asia.'

We have allowed ourselves little space to speak of Doctor Lansdell's book. The author is an English clergyman who had previously travelled through Siberia for the purpose of seeing with his own eyes the condition of the prisons and hospitals, and of supplying them with translations of the Bible in various languages. Of this journey he published an interesting account called 'Through Siberia.' The success of that work, and the belief that he had done much good, prompted him to travel through Russian Central Asia with a similar purpose. Although he was evidently unacquainted with the country, and was therefore hardly able to judge of all he saw, he carefully worked at his journals after his return, studied the literature of the subject, and, with the assistance of specialists, has made a very creditable work. There is little that is new in it, except his journey down the Oxus to Khiva and thence across the Steppe to the Caspian. It is noticeable, however, that he gives full credit to his predecessors, and, as confirmatory evidence, what he says is valuable. He, however, abstains from all judgment in regard to the political and social condition of the regions that he visited, and has comparatively little to say about foreign politics. Besides many engravings the book is enriched with a very valuable bibliography of Central Asia, compiled chiefly from the work of Mezhoff, and with lists of the fauna and flora of the country. But these, valuable as they are, have not been drawn up with sufficient care, and some prominent plants which are even mentioned in the body of the book, as for example, *Dephinium ochroleucum*, the yellow larkspur, are omitted.

RECENT FRENCH LITERATURE.

M. ANATOLE FRANCE, in 'Le Livre de mon ami' (Calmann Lévy), has written something charming and exquisite. It is not a story, though it is full of attractive and interesting people. It recalls sometimes, but does not resemble, the most deli-

cute and ethereal of the Essays of Elia. It is a book for summer holidays or long winter evening hours of rest; a book to be read slowly and re-read like a poem. It is made up of the scattered recollections of the earliest childhood and boyhood of a dreamer not yet old. This is the first and larger half of the book, and is called 'Le livre de Pierre.' The remainder is 'Le livre de Suzanne,' "tiré tout entier des papiers de mon ami," and composed of all that was found there that was connected in any way with the childhood of his little daughter. Among the most delightful chapters of this delightful book is the one in which Pierre relates how Suzanne, "qui ne s'était pas encore mise à la recherche du beau," applied herself to it with extreme ardor at the age of three months and twenty days. The exquisite grace and charm of these few pages, the subtle and delicate observation, the fine and tender mockery, are characteristic of the author of 'Le Crime de Sylvestre Bonnard,' which revealed to the world five or six years ago that M. Anatole France, besides being a savant, was a poet with a fine and rare fancy, and above all a tender and sympathetic heart. After all, it is not Pierre, nor Suzanne, nor any of the other personages in 'Le Livre de mon ami,' who gives to the book its peculiar charm; it is M. Anatole France himself. The work is probably in no sense an autobiography, any more than the earlier one was; but, like that, it leaves the reader with the feeling that he has penetrated to what is finest and best in the character of a very charming writer, as no memoirs would ever have enabled him to do.

French literature has always been rich in biographies, memoirs, confessions, and souvenirs; but never have more works of this kind been published than within the last few months. Among these have been the 'Souvenirs de Jeunesse' of the dramatic critic M. Francisque Sarcey (Ollendorf), a volume that brings the author only to the threshold of his present career, and makes the reader wish for more. M. Sarcey may not be a great writer—many find fault with his careless style, for the French reader does not pardon an author who takes no pains to polish his language; but what a charming talker he is! There can be no greater pleasure than to read his theatrical feuilleton in the *Temps*—rambling, disconnected notes, full of personal allusions, remote as possible from any attempt at fine writing, and full of rich hints and the very best independent criticism. In the 'Souvenirs' the same qualities are found. The tone rises, however, but only a little, when he gives graphic details of his academic career, both as a pupil of the *École Normale* and as an instructor in several provincial faculties. Much of what M. Sarcey writes will remain the most truthful and direct statement of the deplorable condition of higher education in provincial France during the early years of the Second Empire. M. Sarcey has lately begun a series of articles in the *Nouvelle Revue*, 'Les Livres.' In his easy way, he talks of the books he has read and of new publications in general. He is evidently not limited as to space, for he rambles along, telling the story of the novel he is reviewing in a very pretty way. His theory of the critic's function is that his reader should believe him when he says, Take this book and read it; or, Don't think of touching it! This, according to him, was the criticism of the eighteenth century. The modern "abstractors of æsthetic quintessence" like to launch out into "vast and lofty generalities"; but Sarcey modestly limits himself to the analysis of a work, and tells his reader whether it is worth purchasing: "not so modest an ambition after all!"

M. Louis Ulbach's 'Misères et Grandeurs littéraires' (Calmann Lévy) has just come to hand.

Under this pretentious title the author has collected articles written by him at various periods. Several of the most interesting relate to the stage. They are the reproductions, with additions, of the writer's contributions to the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts* as far back as 1858. There are some very interesting pages upon the personation of Molière's *Tartuffe* by Fécarter in 1857. Instead of the traditional gloomy villain, Fécarter sought to make of *Tartuffe* a hypocrite of exuberant health and animal spirits, a sanctimonious Don Juan. There are in regard to the stage furniture, to the costumes of the characters in "Tartuffe" and other French plays of the seventeenth century, several pretty hints which are very opportune at the present moment, when so much attention is given to what, for the lack of an English equivalent, must be called the art of the *misc-en-scène*. Other articles in the same volume are worth reading, especially that on Mme. de Lamartine, and the one entitled 'Histoire du Maudit,' in which the story of that now almost forgotten book is related. The publication of 'Le Maudit' created some stir in 1863, and M. Ulbach was much annoyed because not it alone, but the whole series signed "L'abbé X.," was wrongly attributed to himself. Although it became known later that the Abbé Michon was the real author, the mistake still continues to be made, and in the present volume M. Ulbach reproduces the articles he wrote at the time, prefaced by a few pages in which he tells how these anti-clerical novels came to be attributed to him.

The life of the "historien national," Henri Martin, who died two years ago, "full of days and full of works," deserved to be written. M. Gabriel Hanotaux has made it the subject of a thoroughly good book—'Henri Martin: sa vie, ses œuvres, son temps' (Léopold Cerf). Henri Martin, born in 1810, belongs to the generation of 1830, of which Victor Hugo is the most illustrious representative. Nor did he any more than his contemporaries, Michelet, Quinet, the two Thierry's, escape the influence of the Romantic movement, and we find him at the age of twenty sending forth his first literary venture, aided by his friend the Bibliophile Jacob—a novel in two volumes, 'Wolfthurn'—with a preface beginning with the words: "L'horrible, . . . nous aimons l'horrible." This was followed by dramas and other novels, mostly historical. In 1833, the future historian conceived the idea of writing a History of France "for the people," thus beginning his historical career as he closed it, for the last volume of 'L'Histoire de France populaire,' of which the first was published in 1879, appeared less than a year ago. Henri Martin is eminently the republican historian of France. He was the first who sought to put within reach of all a true and healthy version of the national life of his country. His biographer, after explaining the original idea of the history, shows us Henri Martin as influenced by the Saint-Simonian movement, from which he soon became a dissident, with his friends Jean Reynaud and Pierre Leroux. The growth of his philosophical and political ideas is exhibited by an analysis of his works. Although M. Hanotaux does not neglect purely personal details, they seem scanty when compared with the space occupied in the exposition of theories.

We close the book, feeling that we know a great deal about Henri Martin's works and very little about the man himself. Even what has been called the *druidism* of Henri Martin is not sufficiently cleared up. But this may be asking for more than M. Hanotaux intended to give. In the multiplicity of biographies, made up of anecdotes and trifles, it is refreshing to find a work of erudition both attractive and well arranged, which makes a whole period live before us. The best

pages are devoted to the great work of Henri Martin, 'L'Histoire de France,' in nineteen volumes, which was only finished after seventeen years of assiduous labor. The short account of the historians who preceded him, and the parallel drawn between Henri Martin and Michelet, form an excellent chapter of criticism. After showing that the 'Histoire de France' has now become the basis for the teaching of history in France, that it is the great receptacle of French historical research up to this time, M. Hanotaux says: "Indeed, everything that ought to be known is found there; what may be neglected is only mentioned by the way, and every one may without shame be ignorant of what Henri Martin's 'Histoire de France' does not contain." The biography closes with the political life of Henri Martin, his connection with the Commune, his Parliamentary career. It is a solid, well-written book, and will repay careful study.

Equally serious in purpose, but of less general interest, is M. Léonce de Piépape's 'Charles de Bernard, sa vie, ses œuvres' (Paris: Calmann Lévy; Boston: Schoenhof). Charles de Bernard, little read by the present generation, held a high place as a novelist by the side of Balzac, George Sand, and Eugène Sue, in the last years of the reign of Louis Philippe. Born in 1804, he died in 1850. A native of Besançon, and a royalist at heart, he was in sympathy with few of his Paris contemporaries, while a certain provincial reserve, not to say boorishness, did much to prevent the full development of his powers. All this his biographer has well brought out in the friendly, almost partial, spirit of a fellow-Franco-Comtois—for M. de Piépape shows upon every occasion his love for the province about which he has written several works, the last of which, 'Histoire de la réunion de la Franche-Comté à la France,' was crowned by the French Academy. Charles de Bernard's shorter stories deserve to be read now, as they show well the apparent calm concealing the real uneasiness that preceded the revolution of 1848. One of these, not the best, 'Le Gendre,' was adapted and disfigured in the English comedy "Still Waters Run Deep." His best novels, 'Gerfaut' and 'La Femme de quarante ans,' recall Balzac, who was really Bernard's master; but the disciple has not the force of the teacher: the impression left is not so durable, although his novels can be read with more pleasure. It is to the credit of Charles de Bernard that he never followed Balzac into the lower regions of society. He is a precursor of Feuilleton and Ohnet, not of Zola and Guy de Maupassant. The biography closes with some remarkable pages written in 1838, at the time of Talleyrand's death. In these Charles de Bernard reveals himself as a vigorous writer and thinker. His biography was well worth writing, and M. de Piépape has done it creditably.

The second volume of Andrieux's 'Souvenirs d'un Préfet de Police' (Paris: Jules Rouff; New York: Christern) does not keep the promises held out by the first. It becomes too personal and aggressive; much of the matter is unsavory, and even repulsive. The author takes every occasion to air his political opinions and to hold up his enemies to ridicule. He complacently develops his theories of government in a long chapter, "La République parlementaire." This second volume is even more loosely put together than the first.

To one who likes light, very light, literary chit-chat, M. Charles Monselet's new book will be acceptable. It is true to its unambitious title, 'Petits mémoires littéraires' (Paris: Charpentier; Boston: Schoenhof). As the author says, speaking of the now almost-forgotten celebrities Marc Fournier and Mme. de Girardin (p. 90), "Tout est révélation au bout de trente ans." So he indulges himself in calling up the past, giving his

personal recollections, always fragmentary, of the writers of the generation just past or passing away—Victor Hugo, George Sand, Thiers, Jules Sandeau, etc. It is all done simply and gracefully. The volume may serve as a light document for the future historian of French literature. But M. Monselet remembers many things almost too well. He treats us to long conversations that occurred thirty or forty years ago, probably as faithful and often as interesting as those in Dumas's historical novels. On the whole, while the book is amusing, the reading of it might mystify one who had not some knowledge of men and things in France.

M. Émile Montégut has just published a volume entitled 'Écrivains modernes de l'Angleterre: Première série' (Paris: Hachette; New York: Christern). It is a collection of articles that have appeared in the *Revue des Deux Mondes* at various times upon George Eliot and Charlotte Brontë. Those upon Miss Brontë are dated 1857, those on George Eliot 1859 and 1883. At the close of the book is a chapter which appeared in 1859: 'Un roman de la vie mondaine,' viz., the novel of 'Guy Livingstone.' Written more than a quarter of a century ago in great part, these criticisms or rather appreciations of English writers have a surprising interest and freshness. They have, too, a depth of insight entirely unexpected in a writer whose literary tastes and sympathies would seem likely to be so alien. M. Émile Montégut never offends by intruding his own ideals; he does not write for the purpose of maintaining a literary theory or of crushing his adversaries. This method furnishes little occasion for brilliant writing, but it is much more successful in giving a true impression of the writers and the books he talks about.

Under the title 'Fleurs, Fruits et Légumes' (Dreyfous), the Marquis de Cherville publishes the third part of his 'Vie à la campagne,' a series of well-written papers contributed weekly to the *Temps* upon country life in France. Hunting, fishing, the acclimatization of new breeds, gardening, and the weather occupy a large space, and there is scarcely a subject that would interest the amateur farmer which is not touched upon gracefully.

THE REVISED OLD TESTAMENT.—III.

THE greatest difficulty under which the Revisers—like their predecessors, the Translators—labored was the lack of space for explanatory remarks. There was, it is true, the margin; but that was barely sufficient for hints at the different renderings alone, and could not be utilized for elucidations. Here and there, also, a word or two could be inserted in the text in italics, but only in order to make the sentence grammatical or verbally intelligible. For remarks explaining the choice of words, justifying startling innovations, or throwing light upon inherent or incidental obscurities, only the wide notes of a commentary offer room, and a Bible with ample comments cannot be put in the hands of the millions. The very marginal notes—which unquestionable uncertainties and scrupulous doubt render indispensable—are often calculated only to perplex the more devout than learned Bible reader, by abruptly and successively introducing a variety of views, always unexplained, and sometimes strangely conflicting. One quotation may suffice as an illustration of what we have just been saying. The choice of it has been determined by a letter from an American lady, now in Munich, containing remarks on the special interest attaching to the discussion of the verses concerned, and enclosing two new renderings—one Italian, one French. We give the text of the Revised Version, with its marginal notes inserted in parentheses:

JOB XIX.

- 23 Oh that my words were now written !
Oh that they were inscribed in a book !
24 That with an iron pen and lead
They were graven in the rock for ever !
25 But (or, For) I know that my redeemer (or,
vindicator; Heb. goel) liveth,
And that he shall stand up at the last upon
the earth (Heb. dust);
26 And after my skin hath been destroyed,
Yet from (or, without) my flesh shall I see
God: (Or, And after my skin hath been
destroyed, this shall be, even from, etc.
Or, And though after my skin this body
be destroyed, yet from, etc.)
27 Whom I shall see for myself (or, on my side),
And mine eyes shall behold, and not another
(or, as a stranger).
My reins are consumed within me.
28 If ye say, How we will persecute him ! . . .

What the sense of these ejaculations of Job is, only comments can reveal. As they stand, they present little more than incoherent verbiage. The marginal notes make the confusion worse confounded. A freer rendering might have shown some palpable connection, and made the meaning intelligible; but neither the Authorized Version nor the Revised was intended to be a free translation. Does Job comfort himself—in the sense in which theologians, and chiefly preachers at funerals, use his words—with the hope of ultimate redemption in or without the flesh? of immortality or resurrection? If so, why all his attacks on the justice of Providence? And why is he not silenced by his opponents with this his own confidence in the living Redeemer and in the eternal bliss that is to follow the destruction of the skin? The revisers are unable or unwilling to indicate clearly their view in this regard, and make no attempt whatever to be the "vindicators" of the good sense of Job's words, which are "inscribed in a book," and immortal, as if "graven in the rock for ever." And yet the Hebrew Prometheus is not presented to us as incoherently raving, and what we clearly understand of the book convinces us that all its words had, and all may possibly still be discovered to have, an excellent meaning. What distiguers the book in translations is in part the insufficiency of our understanding of its rich vocabulary and peculiar constructions, and in part the fatal obscurity of unexplained literal renderings. Our correspondent finds excellent poetical sense in the verses quoted, as translated by Signor Beniamino Consolo, a Hebraist of Florence, the gist of whose translation she thus condenses:

"Oh, that my words were written in a book,
that they were engraved upon a rock! For I
know that by and by, long after I am dead, per-
haps, some one will rise up who will say success-
fully what I am now saying in vain. That man
will be my vindicator, and posterity will reverse
the sentence of my persecutors. I am sure of
this, although for me nothing remains but death
and corruption."

The Florentine Jewish scholar's translation is too bold in some of its features; the French, from Segond's Bible, deserves to be copied:

"Oh! je voudrais que mes paroles fussent écrites,
qu'elles fussent écrites dans un livre.
Je voudrais qu'avec un burin de fer et avec du plomb
Elles fussent pour toujours gravées dans le roc.
Mais je sais que mon vengeur est vivant,
Et qu'il se lèvera derrière sur la terre.
Quand ma peau sera détruite, il se lèvera.
Quand j'en aurai plus de chair, je verrai Dieu.
Je le verrai, et il me sera favorable.
Mes yeux le verront et non ceux d'un autre.
Mon âme languit d'attente au dedans de moi.
Vous direz alors: Pourquoi le poursuivions-nous? . . ."

Almost exactly the same meaning is expressed (though with some variations in expounding a few subordinate parts of the original) in an English translation communicated to a journal of Baltimore by Rabbi Benjamin Szold, of that city—the author of an extensive commentary on Job, in Hebrew, just going through the press, parts of which we have had an opportunity to read in proof and admire. According to him, Job, solemnly protesting against the unjust charges of his friends, the self-constituted defend-

ers of Providence, expresses the wish that his words in self-defence may descend to remote ages and ultimately rouse a vindicator of his memory. But even this does not satisfy him; he would like to live to see how God, through that "avenger" of the righteous cause, would proclaim his innocence. The sufferer mournfully exclaims:

"Still, this will be when my skin they [who torture me with accusations] have cut down;
But that I may see God while in my flesh—
That I myself may behold,
My eyes, and not another's, shall see—
Thereafter do my reins within me yearn;
So that you would say, Why do we persecute him? . . ."

Hunting Trips of a Ranchman. By Theodore Roosevelt. Illustrated by R. Swain Gifford, J. C. Beard, Fannie E. Gifford, and Henry Sandham. "Medora Edition." G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1885.

WITH primitive man, it was a struggle for existence between himself and wild animals. He slaughtered them not only to provide food for himself and his family, but also as a means of self-protection against the more ferocious of them. His first step in the progress toward civilization was the taming and herding of the more gentle of these animals, so that his supply of food might be more certain and involve less labor. From the pastoral condition the next stage was the development of agriculture, and after that of commerce, which gradually brought about the complicated social system of the present day. In his present stage of development, the man whom circumstances have placed above the need of constant labor for his support, loves to return as far as possible to the condition of his primitive ancestor, and cope with the wild beast in his native lair, or, in other words, put himself in the condition of killing as a necessity for the immediate supply of food; and looks down with lofty contempt upon those less favorably situated in a pecuniary point of view, who kill game for the sake of selling the meat or hides to others—the much-despised "pot hunters." Whatever be the reason of this sportsman's instinct—whether it be a harking back to the savage ancestor, or an unconscious desire to prove that the physical power of the race to endure hardship has not deteriorated by civilization—it is nevertheless very real, and one which is apt to characterize the best type of modern man.

Mr. Roosevelt's ambition is evidently a many-sided one. Having obtained an extraordinary prominence in politics for one of his age, and in a field where his social position and instincts would seem to be a bar to preferment, he boldly asserts himself to belong to the politically unpopular classes of "literary fellows," cattle kings, and noble sportsmen, whose extreme type is found in the much-dreaded titled nobility of Europe; and publishes, with all the luxury the book-maker's art is capable of, a ponderous volume of his hunting experiences during his life as a Montana ranchman. The malicious might say that his object in so doing is to reply to the innuendoes of those who considered his retirement to Montana, after the Chicago Republican Convention, a convenient escape from the dilemma of supporting a candidate whom he did not approve of, or of being untrue to his party. Be this as it may, the volume itself not only bears internal evidence of the reality of his ranch life and of personal participation in all the hardships which it involves, but leads one to wonder how, during the years he has devoted to it, he has also found time to attend to his New York constituents.

His descriptions of the game animals of Montana are evidently the result of close personal observation, and his counsels to other hunters, though somewhat diffuse at times, are extremely practical and read as if written on the ground, as

do certain words of Western origin, such as *slews* for sloughs, which have not yet found their way into the dictionaries. His style is simple and devoid of pretence of fine writing, yet his descriptions of scenery are often almost eloquent in the love and appreciation they show of the peculiar scenery of the Plains and "bad lands," which to many present nothing but forbidding aspects. In spite of a certain incongruity in the magnificence of its make-up of broad margins, ragged edged paper, and Japan-proof engravings, the whole volume breathes the freedom and simplicity of the herdsman's life on the Western Plains. The illustrations, instead of being, as is too often the case, poor reproductions of photographs or drawings by men who have never visited the country, are the work of artists of reputation who have evidently themselves seen the scenes they portray. Nothing could be better than the two etchings by Swain Gifford on pages 218 and 264, the one representing the ranchman riding into one of those terrific thunderstorms which spring up so suddenly on the Plains; the other, his lonely bed on the ground with a saddle for his pillow, his horse picketed by his side, startled at every weird sound that breaks the stillness of the approaching dawn, and the prairie wolf searching cautiously for anything eatable that he may steal. Only those who have lived through such scenes can thoroughly appreciate the vividness of these sketches, but even to the uninitiated they suggest the wild loneliness of life on the ocean-like Plains.

The edition is of only 500 copies, and its price limits its circulation to bibliophiles; for such it is a most creditable specimen of American *éditions de luxe*. The name *Medora* is apparently that of the town which the French marquis and ranchman named after his courageous and devoted New York wife.

The Mahdi, Past and Present. London: T. Fisher Unwin; New York: Harpers.

IN this little brochure Prof. James Darmesteter, of the College of France, who is probably the best European authority on the subject, sketches the origin and strength of the belief in the Mussulman leader who has been giving so much trouble of late. At the outset the Professor corrects the newspaper interpretation of the word *Mahdi*, which does not mean "He who leads," but "He who is led," or the "well-guided one," whose frail and ignorant personality is dictated to by God. In a hundred clearly and concisely-written pages he traces the history of the Mahdi, from the first year of the Mahommedan era (622 A. D.) to the year 1885—1302 of the Hegira—showing how, after the great schism which divided the camp of Islam into the Turkish Sunnites and the Persian Shiites, the latter put forth the doctrine that the destroyer of the infidel would arise from the Prophet's family, though there is no reliable indication that the principle of heredity was recognized by the early Mussulman Arabs. Touching upon the myth, imported by the conquered Zoroastrians into the Moslem faith, that the hero, who is apparently dead, but really only hidden or asleep, awaits the ordained time of his return, the author passes in review the rise and decline of various Mahdis in Persia, Turkey, Egypt, Tripoli, and the Sudan. Many of these potentates seem to have equalled or surpassed in audacity and cunning the present Mahdi. Thus Mohammed ibn Tumert, a mediæval aspirant, persuaded the Berbers of Morocco, by the austerity and chastity of his habits, that he belonged to a better species. As usual, he began by calling himself a saint, and subsequently announced the coming of the Mahdi. Next he affirmed that he himself was the Mahdi; and on being required to perform miracles, he made angels

speak from the bottom of a well and pronounce sentence of death upon his enemies. Then, says Professor Darmesteter, with the touch of humor which is frequent in his writing, he had the well filled up to guard its sanctity from possible pollution, "and to prevent any indiscretion on the part of his angels." In 1799 a Mahdi awoke in Egypt, but was soon put to sleep again by Napoleon's cannon. Each successive Mahdi appears to have been firmly believed in until disaster overcame him, when he was relegated either to the hosts of heaven or to the ever-lengthening list of false prophets.

Mohammed Ahmed, whose star seems still to be in the ascendant, has a peculiar claim upon Mohammedan loyalty. He bears out a very ancient tradition, attributed to Mohammed himself, declaring that the Mahdi shall have the same name as the Prophet, and that the father of the Mahdi shall have the same name as the Prophet's father. Not only are these conditions fulfilled in the person of Mohammed Ahmed, but his mother's name is that of the Prophet's mother, and his age is the age of prophecy, for at forty the founder of Islam revealed himself. Moreover, at twelve years of age the Mahdi knew the Koran by heart, and at twenty-five he went to live as a hermit in the Island of Aba, where he remained fifteen years, corresponding to Mohammed's fifteen years of meditation near Mount Harra—fasting and mourning, and becoming venerated by the Beggaras, until, in the fortieth year, he rose up Mahdi, and despatched emissaries to the various tribes announcing that the Turkish dominion was about to end, that the Sudan was to rise, and that he was to proceed to Mecca. In August, 1881, the Governor of Khartum despatched 200 men to seize him, but the troop was cut to pieces by the Arabs. After other minor engagements came the destruction of Hicks's army, and the deplorable events which followed. The destruction of Antichrist, according to tradition, must be accomplished as the beginning of the Mahdi's work, and it seems clear to Professor Darmesteter that the Sudanese regard the death of "Gordon the Impostor" as the realization of this part of the prediction. It is a little awkward for Mohammed Ahmed, however, that the orthodox tradition lays down that the true Mahdi will appear in Arabia, and not in the Sudan; and that he is not to proclaim himself Mahdi, but to be proclaimed in spite of himself at Mecca.

M. Darmesteter, in conclusion, inclines to the opinion that the civilization of the Sudan will be effected through the medium of the Abyssinian people. The work is an excellent précis of some of the principal points of Mohammedan history. It contains explanatory notes and a preface by the translator, Miss Ada S. Ballin, who appears to have done her work well.

The Lenapé Stone, or the Indian and the Mammoth. By H. C. Mercer. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1885. 8vo, pp. 95. Illustrated.

THIS thin, flat piece of polished slate, some four inches long by one and a-half broad, belongs to the class of relics known as gorgets, and does not differ from the usual run of such articles except in the fact that it is covered with rudely-scratched figures, which are grouped together in such a way as to give the impression that they might have been intended to represent pictographically the migration legend of the Delawares, and the well-known story of the Big Buffalo. Without stopping to inquire into the truth of these interpretations, it is sufficient to say that among these figures or groups there is one which, stripped of all accessories, may be construed into a rude attempt at representing a mammoth attacked by hunters. Assuming this to have been the intention of the savage artist, the carving at once becomes of

importance, since it will, if it prove to be genuine, furnish another link in the chain of argument that points to the contemporaneity of the Indian and the mammoth in the valley of the Delaware. Recognizing the full significance of this fact, Mr. Mercer has inquired into the history of the specimen, and in the present little volume he gives us an account of it, with the reasons why he believes in its authenticity.

Beginning with the peculiar circumstances attending its discovery, he, first of all, satisfies himself of the honesty and good faith of the person who found it and of its present possessor. This, of course, is a step in the right direction; but, unfortunately, in the present state of archaeological research, it does not go far enough. Frauds and forgeries have become so common that the presumption is uniformly against the genuineness of any specimen that is "out of the routine average"; and hence it is that, in a case like the present, involving certain far-reaching consequences, it is not only not sufficient that the good faith of the finder should be above suspicion, but it is also necessary that the specimen itself, both in conception and execution, should be of such a character as to leave no doubt as to its origin. Moreover, it must have been found under such circumstances as to preclude the possibility of a fraud or the perpetration of a hoax. These conditions may seem hard, but they are imposed by the necessities of the situation, and as they are evidently not fulfilled in the present instance, Mr. Mercer's theory breaks down in the very place where it ought to be strong. Upon this point there does not seem to be any chance for a difference of opinion. The specialists to whom the specimen was submitted for an examination are in full accord, and either reject it entirely, or, what amounts to the same thing, do not accept it. This decision is believed to be in accordance with the facts, and it will, we think, be generally accepted. Indeed, it cannot well be otherwise, for Mr. Mercer's argument, regarded in the most favorable light, only proves the probable truth of his theory; and this is a case in which archaeologists have a right to demand certainty, and in which they cannot afford to be content with less.

New York and the Conspiration of 1863. A chapter in the history of the Civil War. By James B. Fry, retired Assistant Adjutant-General. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1885.

IN this thin volume of 85 pages General Fry sums up all that has been said as to the origin of the draft riots in New York in 1863, and finally and effectually disposes of the repeated efforts to justify the course of Governor Seymour and the New York Democracy toward the national Government. Four days of riot in New York, beginning just after the battle of Gettysburg, and clearly traceable to Southern emissaries, who had begun their preparations long before Vicksburg and Gettysburg had strengthened the Union cause, might well have been the turning-point of a Northern resistance fatal to the Administration in Washington. That those scenes were marked by horrors which may well be buried in oblivion, ought to be reason enough for keeping silent or at least being truthful; but this Governor Seymour's authorized biographers did not think sufficient for his credit. They undertook to claim for him immunity from any responsibility for these riots and the credit of having suppressed them. General Fry, who was Provost-Marshal-General, and is the highest living authority on the subject, proves from indubitable evidence of letters exchanged at the time, that Governor Seymour was led into open hostility to the draft, and thus brought on the riots which were suppressed by the strong arm of the Union army stretched over New York. It is

not pleasant reading, this story of one of the most disgraceful outbreaks that ever occurred in any American city; but fortunately General Fry passes lightly over its savage features, only to show that the national Government did everything it could to secure prompt obedience to the laws and a proper enforcement of them. These laws had been enacted by a Congress in which Democrats of as good standing as Governor Seymour took part, and gave their sanction to a measure which had been in force in the Confederacy from the outset. Governor Seymour was the leader and spokesman and the official and partisan representative of those who were opposed to the war and to the right of the Government to carry it on in its own way. He was one of those whose convictions were against the wisdom of trying to force men into the army, if not against the right of the Government to do so. General Fry shows that such Democrats as United States Senators Richardson and McDougal voted for a conscription, and that the officers assigned to enforce it in New York were in the majority war Democrats, as were the majority of the commission appointed at a later date to inquire into the charge of unfairness in the quotas assigned to New York; and that Governor Seymour in 1864 wrote that he did not mean to find fault with the officers who made the enrolment in New York and Brooklyn—a disavowal which was not repeated in the defence made for him in the *Herald* in 1878, in the *Times* in 1879, and in a volume published in 1883, purporting to give his views at present. General Fry does not apologize for the shortcomings and blunders which marked the administration of the draft, but he does show that Governor Seymour's opposition to the law itself invited the armed resistance and the bloody riots which required the interposition of troops from the Army of the Potomac to restore and maintain order in New York. His narrative is wholly devoid of passion, and rests on a series of unimpeachable documents.

The History of Detroit and Michigan. By Silas Farmer, City Historiographer. Detroit: S. Farmer & Co.

It is early or Territorial Michigan of which the history is here given in connection with that of Detroit. We have no reason to dispute the author's assertion that no light is thrown on the beginnings of the State than can be found in any other work. His industry has been prodigious, and the sub-title of this volume of a thousand pages, small quarto, "A Chronological Cyclopædia of the Past and Present," is more exactly descriptive than the main title. Mr. Farmer has produced a book of reference, filling it with names, dates, and events in great but systematic profusion, and interspersing chapters which are either measurably or wholly readable, with others which are the barest statistical annals. His plan has been to make each section complete itself, and its treatment chronological. His antiquarian tastes, rather than any literary criterion, have determined what should be included. To the same predilection we owe a large number of interesting facsimiles of old maps, seals, wildcat shinplasters, election cuts, and the like. The subdivisions are sometimes a little unexpected, as when fires and engine-houses are placed under "Architectural"; and the temperance movement under "Commercial," because the liquor traffic is there disposed of. But a good table of contents and a double index make this of no consequence. The readable portions *par excellence* are those relating the biography of Cadillac, the founder of Detroit, concerning whom Mr. Farmer's researches in France have brought to view much that was quite unknown; and the military history generally, embracing the conspiracy of Pon-

tiac, Hull's surrender, and the Patriot War of our neighbors across the northern border. To General Hull a whole chapter is given, and he is unqualifiedly condemned.

Detroit, we are reminded by our author, whose local pride excites sympathy, is older than St. Petersburg, and, pushing his comparisons further, he declares that more tonnage passes up and down the Detroit River than enters the Thames. This is a rather vague and intangible proposition, and we pass it by. But when Mr. Farmer insists that more fresh water is discharged through the Detroit River than through any in the world except the Niagara and the St. Lawrence in the same system, he obviously goes too far. Granting that the discharge amounts to 212,000 cubic feet a second, this is less than half, if not one-third, of what either the Mississippi or the Amazon pours into the Atlantic. On p. 91, the motto *Tuebor* on the State seal is interpreted "I defend" for "I will defend." There is a slight ambiguity on p. 658, where the date of Doctor Duffield's being succeeded as head of the Harper Hospital might be taken, from the context, as the date of his death. But this event occurred eleven days before, as is correctly stated on p. 506.

Russische Leute. Von Friedrich Dernburg, Chef-redakteur der *Nationalzeitung*. Berlin. 1885. 347 pp.

This belongs to the best variety of books of travel, being a narrative of a vacation tour made by a clever and well-informed man—the editor of a leading Berlin daily—and so avoiding at once the tediousness incident to descriptions of journeys made solely to obtain material for a book, and the flippancy and general artificiality common to those numerous works which appear to have been written with the single object of impressing upon the author's acquaintances the fact that he has been "abroad." Mr. Dernburg remarks that no one ever travels (from Berlin) toward the northeast for pleasure, so that his announcement that he was to spend his holidays in these barren wastes excited as much astonishment among his friends as if he had been starting for Angra Pequena. For though Warsaw is but sixteen hours from Berlin, it is as little known to the Berliner as if it were sixteen days distant.

Mr. Dernburg has a good deal to say, all entertaining as well as instructive, about the relations of Russians and Poles. "They are our ruin," said a Russian to him. "It is not only in Poland, but they are present everywhere; and wherever they are, they undermine the ground we stand on." Then he went to pass the night with a German friend who had married a Polish lady, and lived just out of Warsaw, their only near neighbors being a young Russian civil-servant and his wife. When the husbands each day had gone to town by train, the wives were very lonely. Personally, the young Russian lady was everything she should be, and was anxious to make friends with the other; but, "though not hard-hearted," the "patriotic bias" was so strong in the latter that she refused to take the least pity on her neighbor's forlorn condition.

Moscow, to which three-fourths of Mr. Dernburg's book is given, is a topic much less fresh, but our author makes up for the triteness of the subject by originality of incident and of point of view. We of course find the inevitable chapters on Nihilism, the Kremlin and its countless historical associations, official society, the courts, and, incidentally, the fair at Nizhni Novgorod. They are all well written and entertaining, but the chapters that have most interested us are those on the university professors and the Ger-

mans. Mr. Dernburg was very cordially received and introduced by a certain professor of zoölogy, famous throughout the scientific world for his achievements, but a glowing slavophile, who takes delight in telling his visitor how, in spite of earnest solicitations, he and his brother professors refuse to publish their investigations in what the Germans call a "Cultursprache," in spite of the threat that "otherwise Europe would take no notice of us. But if we progress in our scientific acquirements, Europe will have to seek out our productions in our language, or else fall into the scientific decline of the French, who, from political hatred, have ignored German achievements." But Professor Bogdanoff did not name the day on which Russia was to take the lead among intellectual nations.

Selections from the Prose Writings of Jonathan Swift. With a Preface and Notes by Stanley Lane-Poole. D. Appleton & Co. 1885. (Parchement Library.)

THE editor of these selections, after referring to the great difficulties of his task, which were really insurmountable, frankly states that his main effort has been to present Swift's "power of detailed and minute invention"—the literary quality of which Defoe's work stands as the type; but he has not confined his choice to such passages, and has given some paragraphs from all the great satirist's important writings. There are many reasons why selections from Swift must be unsatisfactory, must fail to represent him. The great mass of his work goes to show that, to adopt Swinburne's convenient classification, he belongs to the giants and not the gods of literature, and in the labors of the giants an incident or two gives no more impression of their might than a splinter of rock gives of Gibraltar. It is the continuity of his scorn of man, the spontaneity, the inexhaustible originality of his misanthropy, the flood and bulk of the streams loosed from his vials of wrath, that make Swift's genius felt; and when is added to this fact the further consideration that what can be included in a book of this description, *pueris virgibusque*, is very narrowly limited, the impossibility of giving an impression of Swift in the totality of his genius must be readily acknowledged. It needs no proof to show what a *pallida imago* of Swift must remain when 'The Tale of the Tub' is disembowelled of all its satire on religious sectaries, and 'Gulliver's Travels' scarcely mention the Yahoos. Filth was as essential an element of life as Swift saw it as rottenness is of carrion; and though the editor seems to think it of no consequence, the delight in the obscene, the cold foulness and monkish impudicity, that belonged to Swift's nature as spots to the leopard, cannot be suppressed without warping his genius, for it was not animalism, but moral deformity.

All this being admitted, the most that can be said of this volume is that it affords examples of Swift's style, and indicates the varied and vehement activity of his mind; but in no sense does it represent his genius in its stern and naked strength, unless that proposal for disposing of the children of Ireland as fat butchers' meat be regarded as sufficient. Even in reading that, however, one needs further insight into his character than the other extracts afford before one can see the dry eyes of the old man as he sat writing it, and feel the tears of pity and silent rage welling up in his heart. In the case of such work as Swift's, which was never meant to be held in such dainty covers, the winnowing of time is better than that of any literary scholar. The whole of the 'Tale of a Tub,' of Gulliver, or of the Drapier's Letters might serve, but not a few torrid pages for girls and boys.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Andrieux, L. Souvenirs d'un Préfet de Police. Vol. 2. F. W. Christern.
 Arnold, Matthew. Discourses in America. Macmillan & Co. \$1.50.
 Arnold, E. The Song Celestial; or, Bhagavad-Gitā. Translated from the Sanskrit Text. Boston: Roberts Brothers. \$1.
 Baker, G. M. The Reading Club. No. 14. Boston: Lee & Shepard. 15 cents.
 Bompas, C. C. Life of Frank Buckland. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. \$2.
 Brooks, C. T. Poems, Original and Translated. With a Memoir. Boston: Roberts Brothers. \$1.25.
 Brière, L. de la. Au Cercle. F. W. Christern.
 Burnett, Mrs. Frances Hodgson. Pretty Polly Pemberton. Philadelphia: T. B. Peterson & Brothers. 50 cents.
 Burnett, Mrs. Frances Hodgson. Theo. Philadelphia: T. B. Peterson & Brothers. 50 cents.
 Byrnie, E. F. Entangled. A Novel. Harper's Franklin Square Library. 20 cents.
 Caine, H. She's All the World to Me. A Novel. Harper's Handy Series. 25 cents.
 Calderwood, Prof. H. On Teaching: Its End and Means. Macmillan & Co. 50 cents.
 Cervantes. Don Quixote of La Mancha. In 4 vols. Vol. III. Macmillan & Co. \$3.25.
 Chambers, J. On a Margin. Fords, Howard & Hulbert. 50 cents.
 Cleveland, Rose Elizabeth. George Eliot's Poetry, and Other Studies. Funk & Wagnalls. \$1.50.
 Cobban, J. M. A Nemesis; or, Tinted Vapors. D. Appleton & Co. 25 cents.
 Cummins, Maria S. The Lamplighter. Riverside Paper Series. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 50 cents.
 Dawes, Anna Laurens. How We are Governed: An Explanation of the Constitution and Government of the United States. Boston: D. Lothrop & Co. \$1.50.
 D'Arcy, Joseph. Indiscretions contemporaines. Boston: Schoenhof.
 Fitch, J. G. Lectures on Teaching. Delivered in the University at Cambridge, Eng. New ed. Macmillan & Co. \$1.
 Flagg, Prof. I. The Seven Against Thebes of Æschylus. Boston: Ginn & Co. \$1.10.
 Gibbon, C. A Hard Knot. A Novel. Harper's Handy Series. 25 cents.
 Gillow, J. A Literary and Biographical History, or Bibliographical Dictionary of the English Catholics. From the Breach with Rome, in 1534, to the Present Time. Vol. I. Catholic Publication Society. \$4.50.
 Gibson, J. M. Pomegranates from an English Garden: A Selection from the Poems of Robert Browning. Phillips & Hunt. 50 cents.
 Goncourt, Jules de. Lettres. Boston: Schoenhof.

Gigot, A. La Démocratie autoritaire aux États-Unis: Le Général André Jackson. Paris: Calmann Lévy; New York: F. W. Christern.
 Goncourt, E. et J. de. Sophie Arnould. F. W. Christern.
 Greene, Belle C. A New England Conscience. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 75 cents.
 Headley, J. T. Darien Exploring Expedition, under Command of Isaac C. Strain, U. S. N. Illustrated. Harper's Franklin Square Library. 15 cents.
 Howells, W. D. Their Wedding Journey. Riverside Series. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 50 cents.
 Hoffman, Mrs. E. M. Primary Sunday School Exercises. Phillips & Hunt. 75 cents.
 Hugo, Victor. L'Œuvre complète: Extraits. F. W. Christern.
 Janet, P. Victor Cousin. Boston: Schoenhof.
 Jeans-Jones. Stories of Roman History from Cicero. Macmillan & Co. 40 cents.
 Jupilles, Fernand de. Jacques Bonhomme chez John Bull. F. W. Christern.
 Kingsley, J. S. The Standard Natural History. Parts 41 and 42. Boston: S. E. Cassino & Co. 50 cents each.
 King, F. F. Mark Maynard's Wife. Philadelphia: T. B. Peterson & Brothers. \$1.25.
 Kennan, G. Tent Life in Siberia. [Travellers' Series.] G. P. Putnam's Sons. 25 cents.
 Klempner, R. Menschen- und Völkernamen. Etymologische Streifzüge auf dem Gebiete der Eigennamen. B. Westermann & Co. \$3.
 Kirkman, M. M. How to Collect Railway Revenue without Cost. Chicago: Cameron, Amberg & Co.
 Lane-Poole, G. S. Selections from the Prose Writings of Jonathan Swift. With Preface and Notes. D. Appleton & Co. \$1.25.
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 Lawson, J. D. Law of Presumptive Evidence. A. L. Bancroft & Co.
 Lawless, Emily. A Millionaire's Cousin. Boston: Henry Holt & Co. \$1.
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 Lee, H. Sylvan Holt's Daughter. A Novel. Harper's Franklin Square Library. 20 cents.
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 Lippincott's Magazine. New Series, Vol. IX. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co. \$2.
 Longfellow Collectors' Handbook: a Bibliography of First Editions. William Everts Benjamin.
 Lubomirski, Le Prince J. Une Religion nouvelle. F. W. Christern.
 Lytton, Earl of. Glenavert; or, The Metamorphoses. Book III. D. Appleton & Co. 25 cents.
 Margati, J. A Trip to the City of Mexico. Boston: Putnam, Messers & Co.
 Malet, Colonel Enderby's Wife. A Novel. D. Appleton & Co. 50 cents.

Macfarren, G. A. Musical History, Briefly Narrated, and Technically Discussed. John Ireland.
 Mattison, Dr. J. B. The Treatment of Opium Addiction. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 50 cents.
 Martin, Mrs. C. B. Mount Desert on the Coast of Maine. 6th ed. Portland: Loring, Short & Harmon. 75 cents.
 Meyer, K. Cath Finntraga. Anecdota Oxoniensia. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
 Melney-Giffin. Selected Words for Spelling, Dictation, and Language Lessons. A. Lovell & Co.
 Miller, Rev. J. The Thirty-nine Articles of the Church of England. An Historical and Speculative Exposition. London: Simpkin, Marshall & Co.
 Michie, Prof. P. S. The Life and Letters of Emory Upton, Brevet Major-General United States Army. D. Appleton & Co. \$3.
 Montégut, Emile. Écrivains modernes de l'Angleterre. Première série. F. W. Christern.
 Moulton, R. G. Shakespeare as a Dramatic Artist. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
 Monselet, C. Petits Mémoires Littéraires. Boston: Schoenhof.
 Oliver, Capt. S. P. The True Story of the French in Madagascar. With a Map. London: T. Fisher Unwin.
 Palmer, Dr. H. R. Piano Primer. The Author.
 Paul, Prof. O. A Manual of Harmony. For Use in Music-Schools and Seminaries for Self-Instruction. G. Schirmer.
 Perram, Annie Frances. "Go Work." A Book for Girls. Phillips & Hunt. 70 cents.
 Percy, Lucien, et Maugras, Gaston. La Vie Intime de Voltaire aux Délices et à Ferney. Boston: Schoenhof.
 Philippon, Martin. La Conté-Révolution religieuse au XVIe siècle. F. W. Christern.
 Pispape, Léonce de. Charles de Bernard. Boston: Schoenhof.
 Porter, Admral. The Adventures of Harry Marline; or, Notes from an American Midshipman's Lucky Bag. D. Appleton & Co. \$1.
 Poynter, E. Frances. Madame de Presnel. Leisure Hour Series. Henry Holt & Co. \$1.
 Rabusson, Henry. Le Roman d'un fataliste. F. W. Christern.
 Rambaud, A. History of Russia from the Earliest Times to 1882. Including History of the Russo-Turkish War 1877-78. In 3 vols. Boston: Estes & Lauriat. \$3.
 Rawlinson, G. The Religions of the Ancient World. J. B. Alden.
 Revised Version of the Old Testament. Part IV. Harper's Franklin Square Library. 20 cents.
 Rideing, W. H. A Little Upstart. A Novel. Boston: Cupples, Upham & Co.
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Continued from page III.

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GERMANY.—PROF. ALEX. FLEISCH-mann, late of Mrs. Platt's Seminary, Utica, N. Y., will receive a limited number of persons wishing to study German, &c., in his family at his present home in Arnstadt, in Thüringen, Germany. For particulars Address PROF. J. M. CROW, Ph.D., Grinnell, Iowa.

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WANTED.—A SITUATION IN A College or private Academy by a French graduate of the "Chaptal University, Paris," 15 years' experience. Best of references. Address Prof. ALEXANDRE GUILLET, M. V. Summer Institute, Cottage City, Mass.

WANTED.—A GENTLEMAN OF EX-perience in the care and instruction of boys would like to take two or three into his family for the coming school year; references given. Address M., Quincy, Mass.

